

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Asia & Pacific

Vol IV No 057

25 March 1985

JAPAN

Post Ministry Reports New List of U.S. Demands	C 1
Envoy Warns Against Politicizing Trade Issues	C 1
Nakasone Urges 'Orderly' Auto Exports to U.S.	C 2
Japan-PRC Atomic Power Safety Conference Ends	C 2
Soviet Minister Pervyshin To Visit World Fair	C 3
DSP Leaves 'Door Open' for Coalition With LDP	C 3

NORTH KOREA

CPRF Denounces U.S. Weapons Flow Into S. Korea	D 1
Reunification Committee Head Sends Letter to Kim	D 2
Further Report on 428th MAC Meeting at Panmunjom	D 2
U.S., South Stage Aerial Mobile Exercise	D 3
Soviet Papers Decry 'Team Spirit-85' Exercise	D 3
South Students Stage Demonstrations 19 Mar	D 4
Local Assemblies Meet, Uphold Kim Chong-il's Tasks	D 4
Pak Song-chol Sees off SWAPO Group 22 Mar	D 5
Kim Il-song Receives Letter From SWAPO Leader	D 5
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Pakistani President	D 6
Pak Song-chol Departs for Hungarian Party Congress	D 6
Chong Chun-ki, WPK Delegation Leave for Mali	D 6
Briefs: Chinese Cultural Delegation	D 6

SOUTH KOREA

Resumption of Economic, Red Cross Talks Proposed	E 1
Reportage on Chinese Torpedo Boat Incident	E 1
Defense Ministry Issues Statement	E 1
Government Lodges Protest [THE KOREA HERALD 24 Mar]	E 2
Information Minister Announcement	E 2
AFP Provides Further Details	E 4
Direct Negotiations Under Way	E 5
Taiwanese Envoy Expresses Concern	E 5
Unification Minister Vows Efforts for Dialogue	E 6
Chon Emphasizes Importance of 'Team Spirit'	E 6
KAL Baghdad Flight Temporarily Suspended	E 6
DJP Floor Leader on Kim Reinstatement, Elections	E 7
KNP Elects Yi Man-sop President of Party	E 7
New Socialist Party Decides To Join CPD	E 8
[THE KOREA HERALD 22 Mar]	
NKDP President Denies Party To Join CPD	E 8
[THE KOREA TIMES 24 Mar]	
Chon Receives Senegal's President Counsellor	E 9
Briefs: Sports Agreement With Canada	E 9

CAMBODIA

SRV Boosts Troops Near O Bok; Attack Expected	H	1
[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 25 Mar]		
Thai Paper Reports Khmer Rouge Ambush SRV Convoy	H	1
[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 25 Mar]		
Leaders Attend Meeting on LPRP Anniversary	H	2
Heng Samrin Speech	H	2
Chea Sim Greets Souphanouvong on Lao Anniversary	H	4
Reportage on MPR Foreign Minister's Visit	H	5
Delegation Arrives	H	5
Meets With Hun Sen	H	5
Sihanouk Interviewed on Cambodian Situation [Tokyo NHK]	H	6
Comments on U.S. Role [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD 23 Mar]	H	6

THAILAND

Prem Warns SRV on Forces on Cambodian Border	J	1
[BANGKOK POST 23 Mar]		
Athit Statement on Cambodian Border Situation	J	1
Athit Discusses F-16 Issue, National Security	J	2
[THAI RAT 22 Mar]		
Foreign Ministry Refutes Lao Allegations	J	3
[BANGKOK POST 23 Mar]		

VIETNAM

Reaction to Thai Authorities Allegations	K	1
Foreign Ministry Spokesman	K	1
NHAN DAN Rejects Charges [23 Mar]	K	1
Hanoi Radio Commentary	K	1
Hanoi on Sino-U.S.-Thai 'Collusion' in Indochina	K	2
U.S. Providing Aid to 'Cambodian Reactionaries'	K	5
Central Committee Greets LPRP Anniversary	K	5
Japanese Paper Cited on 'Team Spirit-85'	K	6

PHILIPPINES

Marcos Speaks at Armed Forces Day Ceremonies	P	1
Marcos Comments on Proposed U.S. Military Aid Cut	P	10
[TIMES JOURNAL 24 Mar]		

POSTS MINISTRY REPORTS NEW LIST OF U.S. DEMANDS

OW231159 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO -- The United States has submitted to Japan a new nine-point package demanding that Japan open its telecommunications market to foreign competition, the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry disclosed Saturday. Ministry officials said the list of demands was contained in a document sent to Moriya Koyama, vice posts and telecommunications minister, by Lionel Olmer, U.S. undersecretary of commerce for international trade. The U.S. demands were based on the outcome of a meeting of cabinet ministers held in Washington Friday.

The officials said Olmer demanded that Japan reply to the proposal in an official document signed by Koyama. The new list of demands was, in effect, a revision of earlier proposals made by the United States at subcabinet level consultations held in Tokyo March 13.

The United States has dropped a demand for the scrapping of the definition of large-scale and medium- and small-scale value-added network (VAN) service firms in the new regulations governing telecommunications enterprises after privatization of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp. (NTT) April 1, the officials said. Instead, they said, the United States was demanding that educational background and experience gained overseas by senior foreign telecommunications engineers be treated equally with the qualifications of Japanese engineers when licenses are issued in Japan.

The ministry intends to work out Japan's response to the U.S. demands as soon as possible. Koyama will be dispatched to Washington with the Japanese reply on Monday at the earliest, the officials said.

ENVOY WARNS AGAINST POLITICIZING TRADE ISSUES

OW250901 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO -- Outgoing Japanese Ambassador to Washington Yoshio Okawara warned Monday that failure to give competitive American products fair access to the Japanese market would seriously affect bilateral political relations as well. He also emphasized that the next several months will be crucial for President Ronald Reagan's administration in making progress in trade talks with Japan because of aggravated "emotional" sentiment in the U.S. Congress.

Okawara made the warning during a news conference capping his five-year tenure as Japanese envoy to the United States. "I expect specific conclusions and progress" from ongoing Japan-U.S. trade negotiations, the outgoing envoy said. He added that he conveyed his observations on American sentiments to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone last week.

Tokyo and Washington have been holding a series of talks on the extent to which Japan can allow competitive telecommunications, electronics, forest products and drugs and medical equipment to compete in its markets. "We should prevent the trade issues from becoming politicized at all costs," Okawara said. "It's too optimistic to rule out the possibility of disputes and frictions in the economic field from becoming politicized." A former ambassador to Australia, Okawara took up the ambassadorial post in Washington in January, 1980 when President-elect Reagan was about to succeed Jimmy Carter, and the U.S. economy was in the doldrums.

The 65-year-old ambassador offered a somber view on the awesome U.S. trade deficit, saying the Americans would continue to experience red figures in trade even if they settled the dispute over the four sectors with Japan. Nevertheless, Okawara said, the Japanese Government should arrive at a conclusion on the telecommunications issue "within this week." The Posts and Telecommunications Ministry will be sending Vice Minister Moriya Koyama to Washington to seal an agreement with American trade negotiators.

"Japan should open its markets where necessary for its own benefit," Okawara told reporters. Japan's market-opening efforts will come under scrutiny at a ministerial conference of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) April 11-12 in Paris and at the economic summit in Bonn, West Germany May 2-4, he predicted.

Okawara met President Reagan at the White House March 11, where he said he was told of the U.S. Administration's concern about rising emotion in the U.S. Congress against Japanese reluctance to provide foreign products with the same access as Japanese goods enjoy in the American markets. Despite the U.S. Government's stubborn opposition to import surcharges as a step to whittling budget and trade deficits, such possibilities cannot be excluded, the outgoing ambassador said. President Reagan, Okawara pointed out, is trying to counter such moves on Capital Hill by demanding additional market-opening measures by Japan and other countries, and by pushing for a new round of multi-lateral trade negotiations.

NAKASONE URGES 'ORDERLY' AUTO EXPORTS TO U.S.

OW251005 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Monday it is vital for Japan to engage in orderly automobile exports and marketing to the United States after the bilateral auto export restraint agreement expires March 31. Nakasone made the remark to Vice Minister of International Trade and Industry Keiichi Konaga, who met the premier to ask his attendance at a ceremony April 18 marking the 100th year of inauguration of Japan's industrial patent system.

Konaga told a press conference after the meeting that the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and the automobile industry are studying ways to avoid "torrential" auto exports to the U.S., but that nothing has been decided yet. Konaga also told Nakasone that MITI Minister Keijiro Murata had received a letter of thanks from U.S. Trade Representative William Brock on the MITI decision to give up its idea of new legislation in favor of protecting computer software rights under the copyright law.

JAPAN-PRC ATOMIC POWER SAFETY CONFERENCE ENDS

OW221337 Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO -- The Japan-China atomic power safety conference which opened here on March 11 to promote cooperation in the field of nuclear power safety ended Friday. The conference reached an agreement that the two countries will promote exchange of officers in charge of safety regulations as well as researchers and information.

As a result of four meetings held during the 12-day period from March 11, Japan and China agreed to cooperate in establishing and expanding standards for safety regulations and in evaluating the safety of nuclear power facilities. At the same time, the two countries agreed to promote private-level cooperation. China sought Japan's cooperation in training personnel to engage in research on safeguards.

The conference was held to promote cooperation between Japan and China as regards safety of nuclear power. Five Chinese representatives, including Jiang Shengjie, director of the newly established State Atomic Energy Safety Bureau, participated in the conference, while nine Japanese representatives, including Eiichi Tsuji, director of the Atomic Energy Safety Bureau of the Science and Technology Agency, were present.

SOVIET MINISTER PERVYSHIN TO VISIT WORLD FAIR

OW230009 Tokyo KYODO in English 0002 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 23 KYODO -- The Soviet Government Friday informed the Japanese Embassy that Erlen Pervyshin, Soviet minister of manufacture of means of communication, will visit the current international techno-scientific exposition in Japan. The Soviet minister will attend the Soviet Day event at the Tsukuba Expo '85, scheduled for April 22, but the itinerary of his Japan visit has not been decided yet. When Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone talked with Soviet party chief Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow last week, Nakasone asked the Kremlin leadership to send a "bigwig" Soviet representative to the six-month world fair, which began on Sunday.

DSP LEAVES 'DOOR OPEN' FOR COALITION WITH LDP

OW231131 Tokyo KYODO in English 0832 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO -- The moderate Democratic Socialist Party Saturday worked out a draft action program for 1985 that kept the door open for its coalition with the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. The draft will be submitted for approval at the party convention commemorating the 25th anniversary of its founding in late April. It will be formally adopted at the party's central Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday. The draft program made it clear that the party's basic policy is aimed at uniting middle-of-the-road political forces around the DSP. With 51 seats in both houses of the Diet, the DSP is the nation's No. 3 opposition group, after the Japan Socialist Party and Komeito.

The new program does not rule out the possibility of a coalition with the conservative LDP, saying the DSP would not oppose formation of a coalition government with the LDP as long as its own policies were reflected in the administration. On defense policy, the program argues that a national consensus is being formed in line with the party's views. Unarmed neutrality, advocated by the Japan Socialist Party, has been spurned by public opinion as unrealistic, it says.

The program calls for reexamination of the longstanding policy of limiting defense expenditure to less than 1 percent of the gross national product (GNP). Financial restraint has been a brake on defense spending, but the time has come to replace it with a new system accepted by the people it says. In this connection, the program calls on the JSP to pursue more realistic policies on national security and energy.

The party denounces the government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone for threatening to increase tax through introduction of a new commodity tax system. It also urges the Nakasone cabinet to implement drastic administrative reforms, including reorganization of Japanese national railways and administrative agencies.

The program stresses that the DSP will make an all-out effort to win 50 seats in the House of Representatives, 20 in the House of Councillors and an additional 3,000 in local assemblies.

CPRF DENOUNCES U.S. WEAPONS FLOW INTO S. KOREA

SK220606 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Information No 303 issued by the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on 21 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists are continuously bringing modern military equipment into South Korea. According to a report, the U.S. imperialists recently introduced into South Korea and deployed for actual combat action four OV-10A planes belonging to the 22d Close Air Support Battalion under the 326th Division of the U.S. Air Force under the pretext of participation in the criminal "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise.

It is no secret that the U.S. imperialist aggressors, staging the large-scale "Team Spirit" war exercise rackets every year, are increasing the armed forces in South Korea in such a way as to leave there huge numbers of troops and various war equipment that were mobilized in the exercise.

This year, the U.S. imperialists dragged in modern airplanes, tanks, nuclear missiles, nuclear packs and other numerous most modern military equipment from their military bases on the U.S. mainland and in the Pacific region. They are openly maneuvering to deploy large quantities of war equipment for actual combat action in South Korea after staging the war exercise rackets.

This vividly proves that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise being staged by the U.S. imperialist aggressors together with the South Korean puppets is not only a most dangerous test nuclear war and a preliminary war to trigger a new war in Korea, but also a criminal act for shipping into South Korea larger aggressive forces and destruction weapons.

The CPRF pungently denounces the U.S. imperialists with bitter national indignation for continuously introducing new military equipment, deliberately straining the situation on the Korean peninsula, and throwing artificial obstacles in the way of peace and peaceful reunification.

Due to the U.S. imperialists' invariable policy for a colony and a military base and their troop reinforcement maneuvers, South Korea today has been turned into a military base and a warehouse for nuclear weapons where numerous weapons of mass destruction, including more than 1,000 various nuclear weapons, are deployed.

The nuclear military bases, various nuclear warheads, and huge quantities of operational equipment deployed in South Korea are a factor of consistent danger which aggravates tension in Korea and which can trigger a new war. This is arousing the great concern of all Korean people and the world's peace-loving people who want peace in and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

An immediate end must be put to the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers to introduce military equipment for the preparation of an aggressive war. The U.S. authorities must not continue to bring in new military equipment and strain the situation, but withdraw all its tools of death, including nuclear weapons, from South Korea at an early date and accept without delay our proposal for tripartite talks to create the preconditions for the peaceful reunification of the country.

[Dated] 21 March 1985, Pyongyang

REUNIFICATION COMMITTEE HEAD SENDS LETTER TO KIM

SK211150 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA) -- Guy Dupre, general secretary of the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, sent a letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song on March 17 on behalf of the presidium of the International Conference for the Elimination of the Danger of War, for Peace in Korea and Her Peaceful Reunification held in Paris. The letter reads:

We attendants at the conference were unanimous in expressing full support to your policy for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and to the Korean people's struggle for its realization.

They said in their speeches that the proposal for tripartite talks advanced by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a most just and realistic solution for removing the danger of war, guaranteeing peace and creating preconditions for peaceful reunification in Korea. They also demanded the United States and the South Korean authorities to affirmatively respond to the proposal for tripartite talks.

They demanded a prompt withdrawal of the U.S. forces and military equipment including nuclear weapons from South Korea and sternly denounced the United States and the South Korean authorities for staging the provocative "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises, having turned South Korea into a nuclear advance base. All the attendants, though differing in political view and ideology, unanimously expressed their resolution to expand and develop the international solidarity movement for the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country.

The letter wholeheartedly wished President Kim Il-song good health and a long life.

FURTHER REPORT ON 428TH MAC MEETING AT PANMUNJOM

SK220126 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The 428th MAC meeting was held today at Panmunjom at our side's proposal. At the meeting, our side lodged a strong protest with the U.S. side which, in wanton violation of the Armistice Agreement, is shipping massive quantities of modern weapons and combat equipment into South Korea, and staging the large-scale "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise against the northern half of the republic, thus leading the situation to an extreme pitch of strain. Our side also demanded that the enemy implement the six principles that we put forth at the last MAC meeting.

The six principles put forth by our side stipulate that the U.S. side put an end to the war exercises against the DPRK, to espionage activities, to military provocations, and to troop reinforcement maneuvers, respond at an early date to the tripartite talks we proposed, and not create obstacle to contact and dialogues between the North and the South.

The senior member of our side said that the six principles we put forth are by all means just in view of the demand of the Armistice Agreement and of the aspiration of all Korean people and the world's peace-loving people who want the relaxation of the strained situation created in our country.

He continued: With what attitude and position the U.S. side would respond to the issues we put forth will clearly show whether or not it wants to ease tensions in our country, to create an atmosphere of dialogue, and to convert the Armistice into solid peace. The fact that the U.S. side has been staging the provocative "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise and also not ensuring the implementation of our side's demand at today's meeting shows that the relaxation of tensions, dialogue, peace, and so forth are total lies and that the United States is invariably pursuing the policy of war and division, not working for peace and the reunification of Korea. In fact, the United States deliberately aggravated tensions in accordance with its policy for war and (?division) whenever we put forth a new plan for national reunification and for peace and whenever dialogue and contact were provided. Thus, it poured cold water on the hindered dialogue.

Ever since the division of the nation and up until the present, we have put forth the most just and fair of plans one after another and made all sincere efforts to achieve them. Nevertheless, the Korean question has not been solved and tensions are being aggravated every day. All this is attributed to the incorrect attitude of the U.S. side forcing its demand on the other, only standing in the position of strength.

One cannot solve any question by threatening or forcing the other side from a position of strength. If the current situation confrontation continues, the U.S. side will gain nothing. The continual increase of armed forces in South Korea by the U.S. on the pretext of a nonexistent threat of southward invasion, the staging of such a provocative war exercise as the "Team Spirit-85", and the pursuit of military confrontation is not the position of peacefully resolving the question and cannot be regarded as a discreet act.

In conclusion, the senior member of our side said that if the United States truly wants dialogue, peace, and the easing of tensions in Korea, it should immediately stop the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise and implement at an early date the principles we have put forth.

U.S., SOUTH STAGE AERIAL MOBILE EXERCISE

SK221101 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA) -- The U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppet clique staged a large-scale aerial mobile operation exercise in the central sector of the front near the military demarcation line on March 21 as part of the "Team Spirit-85" joint military rehearsal, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Mobilizing in this provocative military exercise held in a simulated attack on the northern half of Korea such latest type planes as F-4, F-5, F-16 and Blackhawk helicopters, they made frantic ado, clamouring about a "surprise attack on the rear" of someone.

SOVIET PAPERS DECRY 'TEAM SPIRIT-85' EXERCISE

SK230431 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0400 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 23 (KCNA) -- The Soviet paper PRAVDA in an analyst's article March 22 said the "Team Spirit 85" joint military rehearsal of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique is an "extension of their policy of strength in the Korean peninsula".

What merits particular attention is that military bases in Japan are more actively used in the war rehearsal to play the role of stronghold, the paper noted, and said:

The United States has turned South Korea into its big bridgehead to use it in its confrontation with socialist countries and in opposing the national liberation movement in this region. Facts prove that the United States is manoeuvring to perpetuate its occupation of South Korea.

Another Soviet paper IZVESTIYA March 21 also carried an analyst's article exposing and condemning the purpose of the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercise.

SOUTH STUDENTS STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS 19 MAR

SK222356 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2322 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 23 (KCNA) -- More than 1,000 students of Konguk University in Seoul staged a powerful campus demonstration on March 19, demanding the release of student representatives under arrest, according to the South Korean paper CHUNGKANG ILBO. They attempted to charge out of the campus gate for a street demonstration only to clash with the puppet police surrounding the university. They fought stubbornly, pelting stones at the police. At the same hour over 300 students of Chungang University waged a fierce campus demonstration, crying for an immediate release of the student representatives who had been illegally walked away. They hurled rocks at the police falling upon them.

On the same day students of Koryo University fought undauntedly in protest against the criminal act of the fascist clique in forcing the president of the university to resign. More than 200 students of the Colleges of Science, Technology and Agriculture under the university attempted to break out of the campus gate after a campus demonstration, denouncing the high-handed repression by the fascist clique. They waged a fierce battle with the tear gas-firing puppet police. Students of seven colleges including Industrial Management and normal colleges held students' general meetings and denounced with bitter resentment the criminal act of the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique in forcing the university president to resign.

LOCAL ASSEMBLIES MEET, UPHOLD KIM CHONG-IL'S TASKS

SK231104 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 23 (KCNA) -- The first sessions of the provincial, city and county people's assemblies were held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The sessions summed up the fulfilment of tasks put forward in "On Further Improving the People's Lives", a speech made by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on February 16, 1984, and discussed measures for this purpose.

Reports were made by the chairmen of the provincial, city and county people's committees and then speeches by many deputies. The reporters and speakers said that wholeheartedly upholding militant tasks advanced by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, in the historical work, the people's power bodies have achieved great successes in the struggle to better the people's lives including the work to increase agricultural production and effect revolutions in the light industry and the public service in the last one year.

They noted that they would radically improve the people's lives by enhancing the function and role of the people's power this year, a significant year celebrating the 40th anniversaries of the national liberation and party founding. The sessions adopted relevant decisions.

Chairmen, vice-chairmen, secretaries and members of the provincial, city and county People's Committees were elected at the sessions.

PAK SONG-CHOL SEES OFF SWAPO GROUP 22 MAR

SK222331 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2303 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA) -- The delegation of the South West Africa People's Organisation [SWAPO] headed by its President Comrade Sam Nujoma left Pyongyang on March 22 by air after visiting our country upon the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It was seen off at the airport by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president of the DPRK, Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, member, and secretary, of the WPK Central Committee, Kil Chae-kyong, alternate member, and vice director of a department of the WPK Central Committee and Major General of the Korean People's Army Yi Hong-sun.

While staying in Korea, the delegation inspected the Party Founding Museum and the Grand People's Study House and visited a worker-peasant Red Guard unit.

KIM IL-SONG RECEIVES LETTER FROM SWAPO LEADER

SK230427 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0356 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 23 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message of thanks sent by Comrade Sam Nujoma, president of the South West Africa People's Organisation [SWAPO] upon leaving our country on March 22. The message reads:

Esteemed Comrade Kim Il-song,

We have concluded the successful visit to the fraternal DPRK with the warm care of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. On this occasion, you, esteemed Comrade Kim Il-song, greatly inspired, once again, the struggle of SWAPO and the Namibian people to achieve the long delayed independence of the country.

Although our visit to your country is not long, through it, the bonds of fraternal friendship and solidarity between the WPK and the SWAPO have been strengthened and further consolidated.

Departing from your beautiful country, we sincerely wish the WPK and the Korean people fresh successes in their efforts for modelling the whole society on the *chuche* idea under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and under the guidance of the dear leader Kim Chong-il.

We wish you, esteemed Comrade Kim Il-song, a long life in good health.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS GREETINGS TO PAKISTANI PRESIDENT

SK221113 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA) -- President Kim Il-song on March 22 sent a message of greetings to General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The message reads:

On the Pakistani day, the auspicious holiday of the Pakistani people, I extend my warm felicitations to Your Excellency and the Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Korean people and myself. Today the Pakistani people under the leadership of Your Excellency are striving hard to strengthen the national unity and build a progressive and prosperous new Pakistan. Believing that the friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further strengthen and develop in the future, I take this occasion to express sincere wishes for greater successes in the efforts of you and your people for the independent development of the country.

PAK SONG-CHOL DEPARTS FOR HUNGARIAN PARTY CONGRESS

SK231124 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 23 (KCNA) -- A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-president of the DPRK, left here today by air to attend the 13th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. The delegation was sent off at the airport by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-president of the DPRK, and Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the WPK. On hand were Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Hungarian Embassy Ferenc Ratkai and Minister Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy Oleg Okonishnikov in Pyongyang.

CHONG CHUN-KI, WPK DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MALI

SK200453 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0850 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang, March 20 (KCNA) -- A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council left Pyongyang on March 20 by air to attend the Second Congress of the Malian People's Democratic Union. It was farewelled at the airport by Comrade Kong Chin-tae, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and Kim Chae-pong, alternate member, and vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee. Soviet Ambassador to Korea Nikolay Shubnikov was present at the airport.

BRIEFS

CHINESE CULTURAL DELEGATION -- Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA) -- A Chinese Government cultural delegation headed by Lu Zhixian, vice-minister of culture, arrived in Pyongyang on March 22 by train. It was met at Pyongyang railway station by O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and Wu Liangpu, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy here. [Text]
[Pyongyang KCNA in English 2310 GMT 22 Mar 85 SK]

RESUMPTION OF ECONOMIC, RED CROSS TALKS PROPOSED

SK250313 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0204 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] In telephone messages sent to the North Korean side today, our side's delegation to the North-South economic talks and the Korean National Red Cross [KNRC] urged the resumption of North-South economic talks on 18 April at Panmunjom and the holding of a North-South Red Cross meeting on 15 May in Seoul.

Kim Ki-hwan, senior member of our side for the North-South economic talks, said in a telephone message sent to Yi Song-nok, the senior member of the North Korean side, that the abortion of the North-South economic talks on two occasions due to a unilateral notice of postponement in the past was very regrettable, and that he hopes the North-South economic talks will be resumed at an early date, and the road of exchanges and cooperation be opened between the North and the South so that it will contribute to national harmony and peaceful reunification.

Senior member Kim Ki-hwan also noted that although there is a difference of opinion between the two sides regarding the plans put forth by the North and the South on exchange of materials and economic cooperation, there are more than a small number of common points, and if the North and the South make sincere efforts to expand the common points between the two sides, positive results will be achieved.

In the meantime, the president of the KNRC, Yu Chang-sun, in a telephone message sent to the chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Central Committee, Son Song-pil, stressed that enabling the families and relatives split between the North and the South to know about each others' whereabouts and to freely meet each other is an urgent task which the Red Cross people should solve and that the North-South Red Cross meeting should not be delayed on the basis of any reason or excuse. He proposed that the North Korean side send a reply concerning its opinion about the schedule of the talks 1 month prior to the date of the meeting. President Yu proposed that the North-South Red Cross meeting be held on 15 May in Seoul, but the schedule of the meeting covers the period from 14 to 17 May -- 3 nights and 4 days.

REPORTAGE ON CHINESE TORPEDO BOAT INCIDENT

Defense Ministry Issues Statement

SK230610 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0531 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Announcement by a spokesman of the ROK Ministry of National Defense -- live]

[Text] At around 1100 on 22 March, our fishing boat Osong-ho No 6 which was returning from catching fish near the sea off Souksando Island, discovered a torpedo boat of the PRC Navy, which was drifting about and signaling distress, and towed it and had it anchor at sea near Hawangdung-do, Puwon County, North Cholla Province.

Also, on this day, upon a request from the moored Red Chinese Navy torpedo boat that two wounded and six dead be rescued, our Coast Guard boat went to the scene, and removed the wounded men to a nearby hospital for first aid treatment. Also, on the morning of 23 March, there was a sighting of three Red Chinese ships that appeared to be searching for this torpedo boat, violating our territorial waters. Our Navy and Air Force immediately drove them out of our territorial waters by warning and show of force. Authorities are now investigating the particulars.

Government Lodges Protest

SK240117 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] The government lodged a strong protest against China yesterday for violation of Korean territorial waters by Chinese warships searching for a missing torpedo boat Friday. Kim Hung-su, Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman, said the protest was filed with a Chinese agency in Hong Kong and that the government has also asked Washington and Tokyo to convey the protest to Beijing. The government, Kim said, also demanded that China apologize for the violation of Korea's territorial integrity and punish those responsible for the intrusion.

Under the Korean Law on the Territorial Waters, the government was authorized to demand that China redress its violation of Korea's territorial waters. The Korean Navy and Air Force warned the Chinese warships, looking for the torpedo boat, off the limit of the Korean territorial waters. A country may ask warships trespassing into its territorial waters in a harmless passage to leave, but shall not take forcible measures against them under the international law.

The Korean law also excludes punitive measures if a foreign warship notifies the Korean minister of foreign affairs of an innocent passage three days in advance of the actual passage through the Korean territorial waters. In the case of the Chinese torpedo vessel rescued by a Korean fishing boat, the Korean Government may choose to exercise jurisdiction over the vessel's crew under international law if the "shooting melee" on the torpedo boat turns out to have been an act of mutiny.

The 1982 Law of the Sea reads in part that the courts of the state which seized a mutinous warship "may decide on the penalties to be imposed, and may also determine the action to be taken" with regard to the ship. The Korean Government may not claim its jurisdiction because it is an established international practice to regard a warship as representing the inviolable sovereignty and independence of the country it belongs to. It is to be seen what the Korean Government will do with the ship in which, in the words of the minister of culture and information, there was a shooting melee.

In the meantime, Consul General to Hong Kong Kim Chong-hun flew back to Hong Kong yesterday morning, cutting short his stay here, in connection with the torpedo boat incident. Kim had been scheduled to leave Seoul tomorrow after attending a conference of diplomatic mission chiefs in Seoul March 14-23.

Information Minister Announcement

SK250401 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0200 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Culture and Information Minister Yi Won-hong made an announcement this morning on the particulars of the incident involving the rescue of the Communist Chinese torpedo boat. You will hear the details from reporter Chon Chong-chi who is now at the Ministry of Culture and Information.

[Begin Chon Chong-chi recording] The results of the investigation by relevant authorities into the incident of the straying of the communist Chinese torpedo boat, disclosed by Culture-Information Minister Yi Won-hong, are as follows:

At around 1900 on 21 March, six 40-ton class torpedo boats of the P-6 class, belonging to the North Sea Fleet of the Communist Chinese Navy, left their base in Qingdao, Shandong Province.

After completing a night-time navigation drill on the high seas, which lasted for about 1 hour, they were returning to the base at around 1930.

When these boats reached a point in the high seas 20 miles east of the Qingdao base, two of the crewmen of the torpedo boat in question, Du Xinli, a communications man, 20, and Wang Zhongrong, a navigator, 19, who had had complaints from their superiors, became enraged after being severely scolded and called names by the superiors again on this day. They snatched two of the AK automatic rifles stored in the boat, went to the steering house and shot six of their superiors to death on the spot. The six who were at the spot, and killed, were (Son Sechung), 40, deputy branch unit guiding committee member; (Chang Yosaeng), 28, deputy chief of the boat and acting captain; (Yu Unjon), 40, guiding committee member of the boat; (So Haeu), 30, deputy chief of the branch unit; (Wang Haryong), 28, deck chief; and (Chu Changkun), 22, communications man. They inflicted wounds through the right shoulder of Z Zhenbo, 35 chief engineer and Zhang Weigong, 24 deputy captain, who were among those other crewmen resisting riot and waiting for a chance to respond.

For fear of punishment in case they returned to the base, they left the fleet moving in the high seas for 9 hours, wrangling with other crewmen. When they ran out of fuel, they began to drift.

Six hours and 30 minutes after they began to drift, they met the Osong-ho No 6, a fishing vessel of our country, on the high seas 40 miles north of Taehuksan-to, and requested rescue by firing flare bombs.

Accordingly, the Osong-ho No 6 towed the torpedo boat to the coast off Hawangdung-to, Puan County, North Cholla Province. The torpedo boat anchored there. Immediately after arriving there, one of the crewmen of the torpedo boat came over to the Osong-ho and said that some crewmen had been killed and wounded in the wake of an accident on the torpedo boat during navigation. He requested quick medical treatment for the two wounded crewmen. In accordance with the request, the torpedo was towed to Kunsan port at 1010 on 23 March, together with all crewmen. Of the crewmen, 11 were accommodated at the Kunsan tourist hotel, and the 6 dead crewmen were moved to the Kunsan medical center.

The crewmen requested emergency rescue steps such as the checking of the boat's engine and oil supply, and treatment for the wounded crewmen. They hope to return home as soon as the emergency state ends. With humanitarian consideration for the boat and the crewmen in distress, the authorities concerned are rendering all necessary protection and accommodation in accordance with the general practice regarding rescue at sea.

Minister Yi Won-hong, in a supplementary explanation given after the announcement of the statement, said: From the site of the accident, it was only a 3-hour and 30-minute distance to Anhung, Asan County, the nearest point, and a 5-hour distance to Sohuksan-to. But the boat was continuing to drift in the area where the incident occurred, even though it has enough oil. Judging from these objective facts, it is believed that there was no plan on what to do after the accident. In addition, Minister Yi Won-hong said that the government is awaiting an official reply from the Communist Chinese side on the intrusion into territorial waters, and that as soon as such a reply is received, he will announce subsequent steps in connection with this. [end recording]

AFP Provides Further Details

HK230650 Hong Kong AFP in English 0632 GMT 23 Mar 85

[By Patrick Minn]

[Text] Seoul, March 23 (AFP) -- South Korean Air Force fighters scrambled after two Chinese warships intruded into South Korean waters today near a Yellow Sea island where a Chinese torpedo vessel was being held following a mutiny, authorities here said. The officials said that six crewmen of the Chinese vessel were killed and two other wounded in a mutiny following a gunfight. Two crew members had started the mutiny, authorities said, adding that it was not certain whether they were trying to defect to South Korea.

The officials said the two warships had rejected a South Korean naval craft's demand to leave as they approached as close as 4,000 yards (3,640 meters) to the island of Hawangdung-do, some 70 kilometers (43 miles) southwest of the Port of Kunsan on South Korea's west coast. Four South Korean Air Force F-5-E jet fighters were circling over the warships after it [as received] had illegally entered South Korean territorial waters, the officials said. The authorities said there had been no hostile engagements between the two sides.

(In Beijing, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman today confirmed to AFP that China had "lost contact with a torpedo boat in training" and said there was a search on for it. The spokesman gave no other details.)

The South Korean officials said a South Korean fishing vessel had found the torpedo vessel adrift and calling for help in the Yellow Sea about 8 p.m. yesterday (1100 GMT Friday) and towed it towards Hawangdung-do. Three South Korean Navy and Coast Guard vessels were sent to the island immediately. In the call for help, the Chinese vessel said two crewmen were wounded, and they were taken to a hospital in Kunsan. The dead men were still aboard the vessel, the officials said.

South Korean authorities said that an official of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY [NCNA] in Hong Kong went to the South Korean Consulate-General in Hong Kong yesterday to ask for assistance in finding a Chinese naval torpedo vessel missing in the Yellow Sea. Authorities said the official said it apparently had developed engine trouble. (An official in charge of political and economic affairs at the South Korean Consulate-General in Hong Kong today said he had no information on such a request and that the Consul General was not in Hong Kong yesterday.) NCNA officials in Hong Kong said they had no such information.)

South Korean Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong today called an urgent conference of key cabinet members to discuss the incident as two members of the Chinese crew were said to be asking to be sent to Taiwan.

When a Chinese civil airliner with more than 100 people aboard was hijacked to South Korea in May 1983, South Korean authorities promptly returned the commandeered plane and all passengers back to China while sentencing six hijackers to several years of prison terms. At that time, officials of the two countries held their first direct contact in Seoul in the absence of formal diplomatic ties and concluded a memorandum of understanding promising cooperation in case of any future emergency incident. After being in prison for a year, the hijackers were freed and sent to Taiwan.

Direct Negotiations Under Way

SK251313 Seoul YONHAP in English 1257 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government views the Chinese torpedo boat incident as a case of "emergency refuge under unavoidable circumstances," a government source said Monday. Therefore, Seoul will put an end to the incident as soon as it receives an official apology from Beijing, which earlier acknowledged that three of its naval vessels had violated South Korea's territorial waters while searching for the missing torpedo boat, the source said.

Because the torpedo boat ran out of fuel, was adrift and sent rescue signals to a nearby South Korean fishing boat, the Korean Government has classified the incident as "emergency refuge." And because the incident involved gunfire taken by discontented crew members against their superiors, the problems related to the incident will be resolved as soon as the Chinese Government makes an official reply to Seoul's protest against the violation of South Korea's territorial waters, the source said.

South Korean and Chinese officials are now holding official and direct negotiations in Hong Kong to discuss the return of the Chinese warship and its crew. Both the vessel and crew members are being held in Kunsan, a port city on South Korea's west coast. The negotiations constitute the first direct and official contact between the two countries since the hijacking of a Chinese civil airliner to South Korea in May 1984. As a result of direct and official negotiations, all but six of the 102 passengers and crewmen aboard the aircraft were returned to China. Seoul and Beijing have no formal diplomatic relations.

Seoul expects Beijing to return an "affirmative official response" to its protest against the violation of territorial waters, because China has admitted the violation, the source said. Chinese officials said the violation occurred "inadvertently." The Korean Government is now studying multilateral measures to return the warship, the survivors and the dead to China en masse, the source added.

Taiwanese Envoy Expresses Concern

SK250739 Seoul YONHAP in English 0724 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP) -- Taiwanese Ambassador to South Korea Hsueh Yu-chi called on the Korean Government's First Assistant Foreign Minister Han U-sok at his office Monday morning to communicate concerns of his government in connection with the case involving a Chinese Navy torpedo boat recently towed to Korea, it was learned here. The ship's crew reportedly mutinied on Friday resulting in the deaths of six and the wounding of two others. The boat was later rescued by a Korean fishing boat while drifting on Korean territorial waters and taken to the southwestern port of Kunsan for medical treatment of the injured.

The Taiwanese Foreign Ministry said in a press statement released Saturday that the Taiwanese Government was in touch with Korean authorities regarding any members of the crew who would want to defect to Taiwan. Han told Hsueh, "The case will be dealt with in accordance with international laws, international customs and the laws of the Republic of Korea." Hsueh went to Taiwan on March 15 for consultations with his government. He returned hurriedly to Seoul on Sunday after the Chinese ship had been rescued.

UNIFICATION MINISTER VOWS EFFORTS FOR DIALOGUE

SK220722 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 22 (YONHAP) -- South Korea's National Unification Board will exert all its power this year to promote the inter-Korean dialogue in order to bring about an epoch-making turning point in the relations between the two Koreas, Unification Minister Yi Se-ki said here Friday. "The Unification Board will do its best to achieve progress in the Red Cross Conference and in business talks between South and North Korea," Yi told a meeting of national unification advisors.

"South Korea, with patience, will try to persuade North Korea to return to the conference table," he said. The minister added that the board will strive to eradicate people's skepticism over the prospects for national unification and to create in the people the firm conviction that such unification is the task of the times, to be solved under any circumstances.

CHON EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF 'TEAM SPIRIT'

SK221155 Seoul YONHAP in English 1145 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 22 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Friday emphasized the importance of the ongoing ROK-U.S. annual military exercise, "Team Spirit '85." "The defensive joint military exercise is very important because it serves as a strong deterrent to any recurrence of war on the Korean peninsula, where tension between South and North Korea is heightening," Chon said.

The president's remarks came at an Army base on the central frontline, where he observed air attacks by Korean and U.S. air force on simulated enemy points.

The high standard of the nation's defense posture, enhanced remarkably by the annual binational exercise, will contribute a great deal to the security of the entire free world, as well as to peace and stability on the peninsula, Chon said. "Steadier efforts must be made to develop tactical concepts suitable for the Korean topographies," he added.

Later in the day, Chon flew to the eastern frontline, where soldiers of U.S. 25th Infantry were taking part in the exercise. After being briefed on the current phase of the exercise, Chon said that "Team Spirit" reflects firm commitment of the United States to the defense of the Republic of Korea. The joint exercises will greatly help to enhance the confidence of many countries in their alliance with the United States, Chon said.

KAL BAGHDAD FLIGHT TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

SK220714 Seoul YONHAP in English 0706 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Manama, March 22 (YONHAP) -- Due to Iran's threat to bombard Baghdad's airport following Iraq's announcement that Iranian territorial air was a war zone, Korean Air (KAL) suspended its flight to Baghdad temporarily, it was learned here Thursday.

According to KAL's Bahrain branch, KAL flight 867 flying the Seoul-Baghdad route landed at Kuwait airport Wednesday night and did not proceed to Baghdad.

In disclosing that Baghdad's airport was actually closed for one day, Wednesday, a Bahrain branch official said that flight 867 flew only as far as Kuwait for reasons of safety although the Iraqi Government hadn't made a formal announcement of the airport's closure. The official said that he can not predict whether a KAL flight for Baghdad via Bahrain on Saturday will fly on to the Iraqi capital.

KAL launched its Seoul-Baghdad service in 1982 on a twice weekly basis in order to transport Korean workers to Iraq. Meanwhile, a KAL Boeing 707 will land in Dahrn, Saudi Arabia, Thursday night and stand by there for a possible emergency evacuation of Korean workers from Iraq and Iran, the official said.

DJP FLOOR LEADER ON KIM REINSTATEMENT, ELECTIONS

SK240322 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Today, in connection with the issue of amnesty for and reinstatement of Mr Kim Tae-chung, DJP floor leader Yi Chong-chan said that the DJP has not the slightest intention of obstructing the development of Mr Kim Tae-chung's political status, and that the settlement of the problem concerning Mr Kim with regard to the judicial process will, in his estimation, depend on Mr Kim's own conduct.

In an interview with Norwegian television at the National Assembly this afternoon, floor leader Yi Chong-chan said the above and added that, if the present presidential election system were to be revised without even putting it into practice, it might well produce still other problems in view of historical experience, and that, therefore, it would not be too late if the discussion of constitutional revision were undertaken after the presidential election in 1988, if there were any problems remaining to be resolved.

Floor leader Yi Chong-chan also stressed that broader autonomy will be continuously realized in all fields for the development of our democracy, especially in the fields of education and labor.

KNP ELECTS YI MAN-SOP PRESIDENT OF PARTY

SK230145 Seoul YONHAP in English 0110 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 23 (YONHAP) -- Yi Man-sop, former vice president of South Korea's minority Korea National Party (KNP), was elected president of the party in national convention here Friday.

Earlier, Yi and other presidential candidates had agreed to form a three-man supreme council for collective leadership, to be headed by Yi. Faced with the strong opposition from the convention delegates, however, the KNP unanimously adopted an amendment to the party constitution calling for the direct election of the party president by the delegates.

In the election, held after the adoption of the revised party constitution, Yi won 456 votes from the 710 delegates present. Choe Chi-hwan obtained 246 votes. Both Yi and Choe failed to win the majority for election. Shortly before the second balloting, however, Choe withdrew his candidacy following behind-the-scene negotiations.

Under the party constitution, Yi is supposed to appoint two vice presidents. Secretary General Sin Chol-kyun and lawmaker-elect Kim Kwang-su are mostly likely to be named vice presidents of the party that won only 20 seats in the latest general elections, barely qualifying it to remain as a floor negotiating group.

Comprising mostly ex-members of the now-defunct ruling Democratic Republican Party of the late President Pak Chung-hui, the KNP had held 28 seats in the previous term of the 276-seat, single-house National Assembly.

In a press conference held shortly after his election, Yi proposed a meeting between leaders of the nation's four major political parties prior to the opening of the National Assembly scheduled in early April. He also called for the establishment of a special committee within the National Assembly for amendments to the Constitution. Yi is likely to appoint two vice presidents and three other key officials of the party by the end of next week.

NEW SOCIALIST PARTY DECIDES TO JOIN CPD

SK220120 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] The New Socialist Party of Korea [NSPK] yesterday decided to join the Council for the Promotion of Democracy [CPD] as a group. The council is co-chaired by two opposition leaders, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung. The party made the decision during its third regular national convention held at the auditorium of the Hongsadan (Young Korean Academy) in Tongsung-dong.

The two Kims, at their meeting last Friday, agreed to admit members of political parties and other organizations on a group or individual basis to increase the strength of the body, now with about 1,500 members. The NSPK is the first political party to join the CPD, which was formed last May and is made up mostly of supporters of the two Kims.

At the convention, about 150 participating delegates changed the party's leadership system from the present one-man rule to a collective leadership system. Yi Won-hyong, party secretary general, was elected chairman of the leadership body called the Supreme Council.

Former party president Ko Chong-hun was named adviser to the NSPK. Ko resigned as leader of the party last month, assuming responsibility of the defeat the NSPK suffered in the Feb. 12 National Assembly election. It won only one seat in that voting.

In a three-point resolution adopted during the meeting, the delegates said that they will make efforts to help realize the merger of "all progressive political parties." Those parties referred to include the Socialist Democratic Party led by Kim Chol.

NKDP PRESIDENT DENIES PARTY TO JOIN CPD

SK240259 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Yi Min-u, president of the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP], flatly denied speculation that the party would join the Council for the Promotion of Democracy [CPD]. He said, "Such speculation is total nonsense," responding to the widespread rumor that some members of the Kim Tae-chung faction in the NDP are attempting to push the entry of the NDP into the CPD to see to it that Kim exercises further influence in the party.

Out of 70 lawmakers-elect of the NDP, 41 belong to the CPD, a civil rights movement co-chaired by Kim and Kim Yong-sam. Party president Yi is advisor to the CPD. Kim Yong-sam can enter the NDP at any time because he has no legal restrictions, but Kim Tae-chung needs an amnesty for his 20-year-long sentence to resume lawful political activities.

Yi went on, "I guess that Mr. Kim Tae-chung is expected to enter our party when the amnesty is given." A CPD member closely allied with Kim Tae-chung dismissed as groundless a vernacular newspaper's report that the CPD has considered affiliation with the NDP. Non-CPD members consisting of non-mainstreamers in the party have strongly opposed the entry of the NDP into the group for fear that the party would then be completely controlled by the two Kims.

CHON RECEIVES SENEGAL'S PRESIDENT COUNSELLOR

SK250615 Seoul YONHAP in English 0613 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan received a courtesy call from Adama Diallo, visiting personal counsellor to Senegal's president at Chongwadae Monday.

Concurrently president of the Oriental Senegalese Mine and Iron Company, Diallo arrived here on March 21 to discuss ways of improving cooperation between the two nations in the area of iron and steel.

For that purpose, the counsellor also met with government officials and business leaders and visited major industrial facilities in the nation.

Diallo is to leave here Monday afternoon after winding up a five-day stay.

BRIEFS

SPORTS AGREEMENT WITH CANADA -- Seoul, March 21 (YONHAP) -- South Korea and Canada, the host nations for the 1988 summer and winter Olympic Games, respectively, Thursday concluded an agreement to promote sports information and athletic exchanges. Korean Sports Minister Yi Young-ho and his Canadian counterpart, Otto Jelinek, signed the bilateral sports pact here. Under the agreement, Korea and Canada will work together closely in preparing for the Olympiad, a ministry official said. The summer games will be held in Seoul, and the winter games in Calgary. Jelinek, who came to Seoul last weekend, returned to Canada after signing the agreement. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 0957 GMT 21 Mar 85 SK]

SRV BOOSTS TROOPS NEAR O BOK; ATTACK EXPECTED

BK250131 Bangkok BANGKOK POST In English 25 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Surin -- Vietnam has sent in reinforcements of up to 15,000 men opposite O Bok Pass in a prelude to a major attack on Khmer resistance forces in the area, Khmer nationalist leader Im Chhudet told the BANGKOK POST yesterday.

Im Chhudet, a member of the Democratic Kampuchea Defense Coordinating Committee, said the Vietnamese troops movement clearly showed that an attack will occur soon. Thai field military sources also anticipated an attack which might lead to cross-border incursions by Vietnam.

In order to open direct and accurate artillery fire, Vietnam will have to cross over to Thailand and seize a hill which it could use as an observatory post, the sources said. Im Chhudet, who commands a group of resistance soldiers in the area opposite the border pass in Ban Kruat District, said the nationalists were at present trying to ambush Hanoi's positions in the interior of the country. With the rainy season set to start in Kampuchea next month, which could lead to a logistics problem for Vietnam as all border roads are expected to be cut off by floods, Hanoi will have to speed up the offensive, he said.

THAI PAPER REPORTS KHMER ROUGE AMBUSH SRV CONVOY

BK250957 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD In English 25 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Prachin Buri -- Khmer resistance troops ambushed a Vietnamese truck convoy inside Kampuchea last Saturday, inflicting at least 10 casualties and destroying three Vietnamese trucks, according to a Khmer Rouge source. The source said that the ambush was carried out at 6 p.m. last Saturday by 150 troops from the Khmer Rouge's 450th Division under Mit So Hong on Route 9/11 linking Phum Nimit and Hum Damnak Chek, about 20 kilometres southeast of Aranyaprathet. The ambush was reportedly conducted against a convoy of ten 10-wheel trucks transporting Vietnamese troops and ammunition from Phum Nimit to former Khmer Rouge positions currently occupied by Vietnamese forces. The source said the ambush began with the detonation of mines planted on the road and was followed by co-ordinated fire from the road side. The resistance forces retreated after a 30-minute gunfire exchange.

The Khmer Rouge said it sustained two wounded while destroying three trucks and inflicting at least 10 casualties on the Vietnamese side. The three trucks were set ablaze and a series of explosion followed, indicating that some ammunition had been destroyed, the source said.

Mit So Hong, the 450th Division commander, reportedly revealed that after the Khmer Rouge bastion in west Kampuchea was run over in the middle of last month, he had been ordered to harass Vietnamese forces in every way, which include attacks on bridges, railroads, highways and government installations.

Meanwhile, Thai military report said that Vietnamese troops had planted mines along a 100-kilometre border stretch with Thailand opposite Klong Hat Subdistrict, Aranyaprathet and Ta Phraya Districts of Prachin Buri. The report said the Vietnamese had laid barbed wires in some areas such as Poipet, Phum Nimit, Ampil, Phum Phay and Phum Yeang Dangkum to cope with attacks by the resistance forces.

LEADERS ATTEND MEETING ON LPRP ANNIVERSARY

BK220751 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The KUFNCD National Council and the Cambodia-Laos Friendship Association organized a solemn meeting at the Bassac riverfront theater hall this morning to mark the 30th founding anniversary of the LPRP with the participation of a large number of cadres, employees, and workers from ministries, offices, units, and mass organizations at the central level and representatives of the KPRAF, intellectuals, Buddhist monks, and ethnic groups. Attending in the presidium, among others, were Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Hun Sen, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Thongpen Soukhaseng, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PRK; Comrade Bou Thang, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Comrade Chan Phin, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat and minister of home and foreign trade; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; Superior Bonze Tep Vong, vice chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State, vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, and chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association; and Comrade Neou Samom, vice chairman of the Central Organization Commission and chairman of the Cambodia-Laos Friendship Association. Other ministers, deputy ministers, aides, directors, deputy directors, and cadres of various ministries and offices were on hand. Ambassadors and representatives of embassies of friendly countries as well as foreign guests also attended.

Following the playing of the national anthems of the two countries and a moment of silence in tribute to the dead, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin took the floor to express heartfelt greetings on the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the fraternal LPRP.

In his address, Comrade Thongpen Soukhaseng expressed deep thanks to the Cambodian party, government, front, and people for organizing the celebration of the historic anniversary of the Lao party and people. The Lao ambassador also related to the meeting the history and activities of the LPRP since its founding in the cause of national liberation as well as in the defense and construction of the country progressing toward socialism.

Heng Samrin Speech

BK230740 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Mar 85

[22 March speech by Heng Samrin, general secretary of KPRP Central Committee and chairman of PRK Council of State, at meeting in Phnom Penh to mark 30th anniversary of LPRP -- recorded]

[Text] We are gathered today to mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of the LPRP, which is the vanguard of the Lao working class and people. The LPRP has gathered all forces of various nationalities throughout the country and led them toward victory in the struggle for national liberation, opening a new brilliant page of history for the land of the Champa flower. The LPRP is leading the Lao people step by step toward socialism.

Cambodia and Laos are neighboring countries. The KPRP and the LPRP share the same origin -- that is, the Indochinese Communist Party. Our two peoples have cooperated in fighting against common enemies -- the Japanese fascists and the French and U.S. imperialists.

Since liberation, the two peoples have cooperated and assisted one another in the construction of new socialism as well as in the cause of the defense of their fatherlands against their direct enemies -- the Beijing Chinese expansionist-hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other international reactionaries.

On this occasion, in the name of the Cambodian working class and the Cambodian people throughout the country, we would like to send our warm sentiment and our best greetings to the LPRP Central Committee, respected and beloved Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane, the entire membership of the LPRP, the Lao working class, and the fraternal Lao people. [applause]

Beloved comrades and friends, the Lao people have a long history. The Lao people valiantly and courageously struggled against the enemy aggressors in order to determine (the existence of their country). Since the founding of the Indochinese Communist Party to lead the working class and the peoples of the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula against the common enemy, the revolutionary struggle of the Lao people entered a new stage (with a new aspect).

The LPRP was founded on 22 March 1955. (It is a great influence and turning point) in the history of the Lao people's revolution. The party enhanced the revolutionary spirit of the Armed Forces and the people throughout the country. In addition to the strength of the alliance among the three peoples on the Indochinese peninsula, the LPRP led the Lao people to struggle valiantly and courageously for 20 years. They successively defeated various strategies of the U.S. imperialists. They smashed the reactionary apparatus and the Lao people grasped complete state power. They founded the LPDR on 2 December 1975, opening a new era -- an era of independence, freedom, and socialism.

The LPRP Third Congress in 1982 set (the common path of the socialist revolution) and the targets in the transitional period aimed at achieving the victory for socialism, defending the fatherland, and creating a peaceful, prosperous, and happy life for the Lao people. Facing the development and the victory of the Lao revolution, all hostile forces due to the collusion between Beijing and Thailand have fled and ordered the bandits to oppose and destroy the revolutionary gains in all fields. It is very true that under the correct and determined leadership of the LPRP, the Lao revolution has advanced firmly and has scored great victories.

[Announcer] After discussing the great victories and the achievements scored by the Lao party and people in the past in the defense and construction of the country, the comrade general secretary continued:

[Heng Samrin] All great victories of the Lao revolution are due to the sincere patriotism, solidarity, and the tough and firm determination to struggle of the Lao people under the leadership of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party. All these victories are also the victories of the special militant solidarity among the three parties and peoples of the Indochinese peninsula. They are the victories of the socialist community, with the Soviet Union as a strong bulwark. They are the victories of revolutions throughout the world.

The advance of the Lao revolution will have many difficulties and hardships. We are confident that due to the leadership of the LPRP, the tradition of solidarity and struggle among various nationalities of the Lao people, the solidarity and cooperation among the three Indochinese countries, as well as the close solidarity with the Soviet Union and various fraternal socialist countries, there is definitely no force which can obstruct the advance of the fraternal Lao people. [applause]

Respected and beloved comrades and friends, the KPRP, the Cambodian working class, and the Cambodian people are very proud to have the glorious LPRP as their valiant and courageous comrades and close brothers. Our party and people always remember the noble assistance and cooperation of the LPRP and the Lao people with our revolution in the past and at present. By understanding the vital significance of the Cambodia-Laos militant alliance and the Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam militant alliance, we are determined to defend and strengthen the bonds of militant solidarity and multifaceted cooperation between Cambodia and Laos and among Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam in accordance with the spirit of treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Laos on 22 March 1979 and the resolution of the summit conference of the three Indochinese countries in February 1983, contributing to the revolutionary cause of each country for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

On this solemn occasion, we express once again our anger toward the maneuvers and crimes of the Beijing Chinese expansionists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and Thailand against the Lao people. We express our anger toward Thailand's aggression over three Lao villages. We completely support the correct stand of Laos concerning this problem. [applause]

Long live the glorious LPRP! [applause]

The bonds of militant solidarity and cooperation in all fields between Cambodia and Laos and among the three Indochinese countries will last forever! [applause]

Long live the eternal Marxism-Leninism! [applause]

Long live the KPRP! [applause]

CHEA SIM GREETES SOUPHANOUVONG ON LAO ANNIVERSARY

BK221745 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] On the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the 6th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of Cambodia-Laos all-round cooperation, Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, sent a message of greetings to Comrade Souphanouvong, chairman of the Lao National Construction Front [LNCF]. The message substantially said:

On behalf of the Cambodian people throughout the country and in my own name, I would like to express my great pleasure and extend best wishes to the comrade chairman and, through you, to the LPRP, the LNCF committee, and all fraternal Lao people who, under the correct and enlightened leadership of the LPRP and LNCF, have enthusiastically upheld the banner of militant solidarity against the war of aggression of colonialism, U.S. imperialism, and Beijing hegemonism, and achieved great success in building and defending an independent, peaceful, and democratic Lao society progressing toward socialism.

The LPRP, KPRP, and CPV have always consistently and firmly treasured the tradition of solidarity, friendship, and fraternal cooperation, a factor ensuring the triumph of the revolution in the three countries. During the past 6 years, the LPRP, the LNCF, and the Lao people have wholeheartedly assisted and supported the just cause of struggle of our Cambodian revolution. In fact, the Laos-Cambodia agreement on peace, friendship, and cooperation signed on 22 March 1979 constitutes a most effective treaty in our revolutionary undertakings.

The all-round successes of the Cambodian revolution over the past 6 years, particularly the recent victories on the battlefields along the Cambodian-Thai border, cannot be separated from the assistance of the LPRP, LNCF, and fraternal Lao people. We once again express our greetings permeated with profound gratitude to the fraternal Lao party, front, and people for the assistance and sacrifices accorded the Cambodian revolution. We wish the Lao party, front, and people the best of health and more and greater successes. May the bonds of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Laos continue to strengthen and develop forever.

REPORTAGE ON MPR FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Delegation Arrives

BK240334 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] At the invitation of the PRK Government, the delegation of the MPR Foreign Ministry led by Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren, member of the MPRP Central Committee and foreign minister of the MPR, arrived at Pochentong Airport at 1100 on 23 March for a 4-day friendship and official visit to the PRK 23-26 March.

Upon its arrival, the delegation was welcomed by Comrade Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and foreign minister; Comrade Kong Korm, deputy foreign minister; female Comrade Borasi, assistant to the foreign minister; as well as many Foreign Ministry cadres. Comrade Gelegiyn Adiyaa, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the MPR to the PRK and the representatives of various friendly countries to the PRK were also present on that occasion. At 1400 on the same day, the delegation laid a wreath at the monument for the fallen combatants to pay respect to the fallen heroes, cadres, and combatants who sacrificed their lives for the revolutionary cause and socialism.

Meets With Hun Sen

BK240750 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0425 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, 24 Mar (SPK) -- A talk took place in Phnom Penh this afternoon between the delegation of Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led by Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, and minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation of Mongolia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led by Minister Mangalyn Dugersuren, member of the MPRP Central Committee. Also taking part in the talks were on the Cambodian side Kong Korm, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, and on the Mongolian side G. Adiyaa, MPR ambassador to the PRK.

The two sides briefed each other on the situation in their respective countries and proceeded to exchange views on the international situation regarding the problems of the region and of the two countries. They noted with satisfaction the harmonious development of their countries and agreed to strengthen further bilateral bonds of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation. The two sides voiced mutual support for the good-will initiatives of their countries and those of the other Indochinese countries and other countries of the socialist community for peace, stability, and cooperation in the region as well as for world peace and socialism.

SIHANOUK INTERVIEWED ON CAMBODIAN SITUATION

OW231101 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 2238 GMT 22 Mar 85

["Exclusive interview" with Norodom Sihanouk, president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, conducted by NHK Bangkok correspondent Kuwae; interview conducted in English, fading into simultaneous Japanese translation -- date and place not given]

[Text] The strongholds of Cambodia's anti-Vietnamese forces on the Thai-Cambodian border have been falling one after another in the face of the Vietnamese troop's intense dry-season offensive. Democratic Kampuchea, now resisting the Vietnamese force, is composed of three factions led by Sihanouk, Pol Pot, and Son Sana respectively. It is a collection of political factions which have totally different ideological backgrounds. How will this anti-Vietnamese force overcome its current difficult situation and rally its strength? In this connection, correspondent in Bangkok Kuwae recently had an exclusive interview with Democratic Kampuchean President Sihanouk.

[Begin recording] [Kuwae] First, your coalition government has lost three important strongholds during the dry season offensive of the Vietnamese troops. How do you assess the current situation?

[Sihanouk] The Vietnamese Army has been successful in eliminating our strongholds near the Thai border, but our government still has small-scale bases near Thailand. We have decided to wage guerrilla warfare. We are planning to send thousands of our guerrillas, belonging to the three factions, deep inside Cambodia to carry out hit-and-run guerrilla activities.

[Kuwae] I understand that the Vietnamese side first held the position that it was ready to talk if the Pol Pot faction was excluded from the coalition force. However, it has recently changed its position, saying that it is now ready to talk if two persons -- Pol Pot and Ieng Sary -- are eliminated. What do you say?

[Sihanouk] Both Ieng Sary and Pol Pot would not abandon the other leaders of Democratic Kampuchea if they were approached with the same request. It is unthinkable that they would be separated from the leaders and troops of Democratic Kampuchea. They have clearly told me that they would not surrender.

[Kuwae] Have you talked to Pol Pot on this issue?

[Sihanouk] No, I have not met with Mr Pol Pot since 1979. It is said that he is now in the Cardamom Mountains.

[Kuwae] This is the 7th year since the fighting began. Do you foresee any sudden changes in the situation?

[Sihanouk] I do not expect any sudden change. The Vietnamese forces may be stronger than us, but it will not be able to break our resistance. Therefore, we will see a protracted and stalemated situation in the fighting. [end recording]

Comments on U.S. Role

BK230925 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 23 Mar 85 pp 1, 32

[Text] Democratic Kampuchean President Prince Norodom Sihanouk this morning called on the United States to "involve itself more seriously" in the current effort to bring about peace in Kampuchea.

Speaking at a news conference at Don Muang Airport before his departure for Beijing, the charismatic prince said he greatly appreciated the U.S. congressional subcommittee's proposal to provide \$5 million aid to non-communist Khmer resistance forces. The proposal is a symbolic gesture of solidarity, he said. However, he said in order to give the Kampuchean resistance a better chance to challenge the Vietnamese troops, more aid should be given and the United States, in its capacity as the leader of the free world, should "involve itself more seriously in the fight for freedom."

"The United States should not continue to have trauma about Vietnam. The Vietnamese are not so terrible and we are defending a just cause," he said. "The Vietnamese used to fight for a just cause and I, including China, used to help them but now they are threatening the peace and stability of this region, against freedom, against democracy. So I think it is the duty of the United States as the leader to the free world to get itself involved," Sihanouk said.

"The United States once intervened in Kampuchea to wipe out an independent Kampuchea and let Lon Nol condemn me to death. That was a bad cause that the United States had involved but now it is a good cause, not a bad cause like 1970," he said.

Referring to the fall of the resistance strongholds at Ampil, Phnom Malai and Ta Tum, Sihanouk said his government still had four bases inside Kampuchea to fight the Vietnamese. "These are small and mobile bases to keep our supply. We left only a small number of troops to protect the bases. A large number of them have been sent deep into Kampuchea to wage guerrilla warfare against the Vietnamese," he said.

"They are to sabotage, to hit and run. This is our way to develop our strength and to weaken the Vietnamese," said Sihanouk.

"We will be more and more active deep inside Kampuchea. This is our new strategy against the Vietnamese," he said.

Sihanouk said he would like to invite newsmen to go inside Kampuchea as far as Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap to talk to local villagers over their loyalty to Democratic Kampuchea.

Some people believed Heng Samrin's remark that people inside Kampuchea were loyal to Heng Samrin and hated Pol Pot and Sihanouk, he said.

"They (the villagers) would tell you they hate Vietnamese. They are either loyal to me or to Son Sann or Khieu Samphan, you will see," he said.

Asked whether he would go to Indonesia to celebrate the 30th Afro-Asian meeting to be held next month at Bandung, Sihanouk said he would have to talk to his Indonesian friends before making any decision.

PREM WARNS SKV ON FORCES ON CAMBODIAN BORDER

BK230130 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Mar 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Surin -- Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda yesterday warned Vietnam that its policy of using a military solution to the Kampuchean problem would end in a fiasco and reiterated that Thailand will do "everything it can" to stop further Vietnamese incursions. He stressed that Thailand has every legitimate right to defend its territorial integrity and said that this may include striking Vietnamese positions inside Kampuchea following Vietnamese incursions into Thailand.

Meanwhile, military sources reported active Vietnamese troop movements near the Chong O Bok Pass which forms the border in Ban Krut District of Buriram. The sources described the situation as "very tense" and said that new Vietnamese incursions are possible. It was reported that two Thai border patrol policemen were seriously wounded during Vietnamese shellings yesterday morning. Chong O Bok was earlier one of the three most sensitive areas, according to Second Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phisit Henabut, who reported active Vietnamese troop movements in these areas.

Describing the recent Vietnamese incursions as "deliberate," the prime minister said that it was impossible for the Vietnamese to misread the map or cross into Thailand accidentally. He said that the Thai-Kampuchean border was clearly defined on maps and was well demarcated by natural barriers. He continued saying that Vietnam's stepped-up military campaign in Kampuchea showed that Vietnam wants to settle the conflict through the use of force and added that it will never succeed in doing so, as Thailand and ASEAN have managed to win more and more sympathy from the international community after the Vietnamese incursions into Thailand.

The prime minister talked to the press after he had inspected the situation and visited troops at the border area in Sangkha District of Surin. Gen Prem arrived by helicopter from Nakhon Ratchasima yesterday morning and visited the Task Force 231 of the Surin force, which is in charge of border security in this area. It was his first trip to the area since the Vietnamese incursions earlier this month. Gen Prem said that Vietnam has been insincere and had failed to keep its word as it had repeatedly said that it had no intention to invade Thailand. The prime minister also ruled out the possibility of Thailand joining forces with the Kampuchean resistance in fighting the Vietnamese.

When asked if the Thai-Kampuchean border situation will worsen Gen Prem said that the situation will depend on the Vietnamese. He added that Thailand wants a peaceful solution to the Kampuchean conflict, but noted that Vietnam has never once offered anything that could lead to a peaceful solution. He said that the situation is under control and that Thai forces are ready to repulse any aggressors.

ATHIT STATEMENT ON CAMBODIAN BORDER SITUATION

BK221455 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Statement given by Supreme Commander and Army Commander in Chief General Athit Kamlang-ek on 21 March in Khon Kaen Province about the Thai-Cambodian border situation - recorded]

[Text] We have taught them [Vietnam] a considerable lesson. They should not think that it will be easy to intrude into Thai territory the way they have done with other countries.

When I asked the captives whether they knew they were fighting on Thai territory, they said that they knew. Asked why they intruded into Thai territory when they knew it, they replied that they were forced to do so. This is what the captives have said, but the newspapers reported that the Vietnamese said that the incursions were border accidents. I do not understand what they say; it is so confused. If such accidents in other areas, it is beyond our patience. We have tried to defend our country inside our territory and never violated other countries' territory. Since such accidents happen so often, Thai soldiers might lose their patience. It might be necessary for us to do something. We are not afraid of such fighting, but we do not want the world people to think that we intrude onto other countries' soil. However, our patience also has its limits. We can not tolerate being frequently attacked. I do not worry about our capability.

This is the border situation. I want to inform you that there are so many incidents in the northeast. I think that it is necessary for us to have strategic materials and technology quickly to help defend the country. The higher our capability, the more we can do to defend our country. I give you only a brief outline of what we and our military have done for the situation at the Cambodian border. There has been cooperation on all sides, including the police, civilians, and the Armed Forces -- the Navy, Air Force, and Army. This time all groups and parties have participated in the defense of the country. People from the border and the rear have also given moral support. It is pleasing to see such solidarity. When there are incidents, everyone gives moral support and does not create problems except for small things, which is usual. Most people in the country try to give moral support in order that we can defend the country. [end recording]

ATHIT DISCUSSES F-16 ISSUE, NATIONAL SECURITY

BK221544 Bangkok THAI RAF in Thai 22 Mar 85 p 7

[Excerpt] General Athit Kalam-ek, Supreme Commander and Army commander in chief, yesterday addressed a group of lecturers and students from the engineering school of Khon Kaen University. The topic of the speech -- given at the Rama Khosi Hotel -- was technology and national security. In the speech, Gen Athit noted that Thailand needs high-technology arms for national defense.

He said: "Concerning the much-talked-about issue of the F-16, as a matter of fact we do not have a particular preference for the F-16's, but what we need is a better aircraft than what we have now. We need an aircraft with greater speed and technology to intercept enemy aircraft flying faster than Mach 2.2 and which can reach Bangkok from the border in a short time." Gen Athit wondered what Thailand would do if the enemy uses such a high speed aircraft against our country. He stressed that Thailand thus also needs to have intercept aircraft with high speed and high technology. As for the number, he said it depends on Thailand's financial situation. We can wait if we do not have the money now, he said. But what we must have is the sale contract.

He noted that there are several steps to follow concerning aircraft purchases. First, Thailand must submit a request to the U.S. Government, which must then forward the issue to Congress for approval. They are very reluctant to sell such weapons invented with such high technology for national defense because if it falls into the other side's hands, they can use it in research for higher technology or for countermeasures against it. This would be very dangerous for them. Therefore, they are very reluctant to sell and must make a careful study before deciding. They must know for sure if we are their true friends, or just fake ones, and whether we really need the aircraft.

Gen Athit said that he learned from leading figures during his visit to the United States that they are willing to support Thailand. He said the matter has already been sent to Congress and no objection has yet been made. He said that if there is no objection within 20 days, the matter would automatically get congressional approval. Gen Athit said that earlier we saw no clear reason for having the aircraft, but now it is very plain, since our northeastern region is being threatened by external forces using high-technology weapons. Gen Athit said what Thailand needs is any aircraft of high technology. It could be a Mirage, a Tornado, or any aircraft capable of Mach 2.2 for interception. In order to be able to use such an aircraft, our pilots will need some training time. If we do not have the aircraft, how can our pilots get the training? He said it would then be like some communist countries in Asia which get support from communist countries in Europe: Their pilots cannot handle the aircraft and must rely on pilots from the countries supplying the aircraft.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REFUTES LAO ALLEGATIONS

BK230212 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Thailand does not have any troops in Laotian territory, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday in response to Laotian allegations made at the ESCAP meeting on Thursday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sawanit Khongsiri said that in an attempt to diffuse the situation over the three border villages in Uttaradit Province, Thailand had removed all troops long ago.

"There are categorically no Thai troops in Laos," Mr Sawanit said.

In reiterating the statement made by the Thai delegation on Thursday, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said:

-- Thailand does not harbour any desire for even an inch of Lao territory or a single Lao national.

-- Thailand has never arrested or detained any Lao citizens, as Thailand is already burdened with 70,000 Laotian refugees; it would be a relief if Laos agreed to accept them back safely.

-- Thailand continues to favour a policy of improving relations with Laos.

-- Thailand wants to see Laos regain her full independence, sovereignty, neutrality and non-alignment.

REACTION TO THAI AUTHORITIES ALLEGATIONS

Foreign Ministry Spokesman

BK251016 Hanoi International Service in English 1007 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on Monday issued a statement on the recent warlike statements by the Thai authorities saying that Thai Armed Forces would clash with Vietnamese forces inside Kampuchea. These statements show that the Thai authorities continue to support the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries to oppose the Kampuchean people. The spokesman demanded that the Thai authorities stop supporting the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries.

NHAN DAN Rejects Charges

OW230753 Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 23 -- NHAN DAN today rejects as "sheer fabrications" the Bangkok authorities' slanderous allegations -- chimed in by Beijing and Western circles -- that Vietnamese troops had committed "acts of provocation" against Thailand and "violations" of Thai territory.

The paper says: "The stance of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and Vietnam is quite clear, that is to respect the noninterference principle, and Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity, strive for a peaceful and friendly border with Thailand as well as other neighbouring countries.

"That correct stance has recently been confirmed and welcomed by a number of circles in ASEAN countries and many other people in the world".

"Realities have shown that it is Thailand that has interfered in the internal affairs and violated the territories of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam", the paper stresses. It adds: "The world knows that Thailand is teaming up with China, providing sanctuaries for the Khmer reactionaries and nurturing them in an attempt to sabotage the Kampuchean people's rebirth, thus causing instability and permanent tension in the region."

The paper continues: "By launching this wicked slanderous campaign, the Bangkok authorities and their supporters seek to divert public opinion, cover up their bankrupt policy of using the Khmer reactionaries to oppose the Indochinese revolution, distort Vietnam's goodwill and deliberately create tension and confrontation so as to sabotage the developing trend toward dialogue in the region".

"Such an attitude brings them no good", the paper concludes.

Hanoi Radio Commentary

BK231259 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] In recent days, the Thai authorities have repeatedly slandered Vietnam, saying that the Vietnamese Volunteer Army in Kampuchea has crossed the Kampuchean-Thai border into Thailand. This is nothing but the often repeated allegation by the Thai authorities to cover up its collusion with China in supporting the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries to oppose the revival and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The heinous genocidal crimes of the Pol Pot clique has been known worldwide.

In 1979 if the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, in coordination with the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces, had not driven away the Pol Pot genocidal clique, the whole Kampuchean nation would have been pushed into the brink of extermination. Although being driven out of the country, the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries, abetted by China and Thailand, have not yet renounced their ambition to return to oppose the Kampuchean people's revival.

In fact, the Thai authorities must also be held responsible for the crimes committed by the Pol Pot and other Khmer reactionaries against the Kampuchean people, because it was Thailand who has provided them sanctuaries from which they open fires at or intrude into Kampuchean territory for sabotage activities. Moreover, Thailand has joined efforts with China to increase military aid for them, trying to breathe life to this political corpse which is being condemned by the whole world.

The Kampuchean people, exercising their legitimate right, have launched many attacks on hideouts of these Khmer reactionaries along the border with Thailand to prevent them from returning to Kampuchea for sabotage and to remove the cause for the current tension in the region. The Thai authorities have shut eyes to the fact which has been recognized by progressive mankind, that is the need to eliminate the Pol Pot clique.

Public opinion in many countries, especially in Southeast Asia, has realized the fact that China has tried to use the Pol Pot card to destabilize Asia. Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden once affirmed that the recognition of the Pol Pot clique is the recognition of Hitler's fascism.

Distortion and slander are familiar tricks of the Thai authorities. Formerly, to justify its aggression of the three hamlets in Sayaboury Province of Laos, the Thai authorities slandered the Lao People's Democratic Republic. However, this act only gives more credence to the fact that it is Thailand who is undermining peace and creating tension at the Kampuchean-Thai border.

It is a pity that some Western countries have chimed in with Thailand in slandering Vietnam. This bias attitude completely ran counter to reality. Many Western countries know clearly Thailand's aggression of the three Lao hamlets and its providing of sanctuaries for the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries and China's threat of aggression against Vietnam.

As for Vietnam its stance is clear, that is to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbors, including Thailand. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea have time and again put forward proposals aimed at turning the border region into a zone of peace and stability.

Realities in the past 6 years showed that Vietnam has strictly respected the independence and sovereignty of other nations. But the Thai Administration has abused Vietnam's and Kampuchea's goodwill by increasing its military collusion with China, deliberately fostering the Pol Pot remnants. Thailand has proved itself to be the saboteur of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

HANOI ON SINO-U.S.-THAI 'COLLUSION' IN INDOCHINA

BK221603 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Feature: "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense," by station editor Vu Dinh Vinh]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, along the northern border of our country, the Chinese troops' military activities continue to strain the situation.

From 8 to 19 March, Chinese soldiers fired nearly 80,000 artillery shells onto various localities of Ha Tuyen, Lang Son, and Quang Ninh Provinces. During this period, the Chinese shellings and intrusions were very serious on a certain number of days and in some localities. On 8 March International Women's Day many Vietnamese women and children along Vietnam's border were killed or wounded by the Chinese soldiers' artillery shellings.

In a single day, 30,000 Chinese artillery shells hit Heights Nos 685, 300, and 400; Coc Nghe; Lange Co; and Thanh Thuy junction of Vi Xuyen District, Ha Tuyen Province. On the same day, the Chinese authorities had three infantry regiments launch 14 attacks on three areas of height No 685, Doi Suoi, and Pa Han of Vi Xuyen District. All of these attacks were repelled.

On 9 March, the Chinese again fired 25,000 artillery shells and on 10 March, 5,000 more shells. Recently, on 18 March, they fired 1,000 shells onto different spots in Vi Xuyen District. Thus, during this period, the enemy fired nearly 70,000 artillery shells onto Vi Xuyen District. Citing this figure, we want to make you realize that the Sino-Vietnamese border situation has become increasingly tense and this has been always a matter of concern for our people and troops who are watching it with high vigilance. The cause of such a tense situation still is the adamantly hostile policy of the Chinese rulers.

This is also new evidence which exposes Beijing's unprincipled allegations about Vietnam's so-called military provocations of China. One can easily understand what the Chinese rulers have done and are doing with such slanderous allegations. A British journalist who recently visited the Chinese border area, reported: In some district towns of Guangxi Province close to Vietnam's border, both Chinese civilians and military are making war preparations. The local authorities said that the Chinese soldiers are ready to fulfill their duties. They disclosed that the Chinese Army units stationed along the border with Vietnam could be deployed in a short time.

The recent issue of the British paper FINANCIAL TIMES observed: Last year, China vigorously intensified pressure on Vietnam by sending more troops to the Yunnan border and putting the air force in Kunming on alert. The Chinese troops recently crossed the border a few times to attack and occupy Vietnam's positions.

The Beijing-based THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent also reported on 17 March: In the recent past, Chinese troops attacked Vietnam's positions along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

It is clear that the aggressive schemes of the Chinese authorities and their hostile policy toward Vietnam remain unchanged. Since their setbacks in their February-March 1979 war of aggression, this hostile policy has continued to be reflected by their multifaceted war of sabotage against our people and their land-grabbing war against Vietnam at the border. And it can be further said that from another aspect, as part of their plan to oppose and sabotage Vietnam, they are using history and science as tools to serve Chinese expansionism with sinister political designs. This campaign was launched in February 1979.

Since then, they have repeatedly made use of the press, held scientific conferences, and published books to spread distorting propaganda against Vietnamese history. Some major activities they have carried out include denying the origin of the Vietnamese nation and distorting and smearing Vietnamese-Chinese relations. They have tried to state that throughout thousands of years of relations between the two countries, there has been no question of China invading Vietnam.

In addition, the Chinese expansionists have also striven to distort the truth about the Paracel and Spratly archipelagos as well as the truth about the border problem. They have also maliciously distorted the relations among Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

One cannot forget that through its psychological warfare efforts, Beijing is opposing and sabotaging Vietnam in an intransigent, sophisticated, and perfidious manner. With the use of their radio and wired-radio stations and their propaganda leaflets, they have poured into our country their propaganda aimed at distorting the situation, undermining our ideology, and sowing division among our internal ranks to oppose our party's and state's policies and lines, and to create disillusion among the people. Meanwhile, they have striven to incite the hatred of Vietnam among Chinese soldiers and people. Thus, through their weapons and ammunition and their psychological and ideological warfare, the Beijing authorities have resorted to all means and tricks aimed at opposing Vietnam in order to implement their reactionary expansionist and hegemonist schemes.

Dear comrades and friends, in the Southeast Asian region the trend toward dialogue continues to develop. The visits to Vietnam by Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja have been appraised by public opinion as being of positive significance and as contributing to the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. By contrast, there has been a noisy outcry from Bangkok and Beijing about the so-called Vietnamese threat to Thailand. During his recent visit to Thailand, the Chinese president reiterated this allegation. Incidentally, on the grounds that Thailand is facing the threat of aggression, the Thai authorities promulgated a martial law order in 16 districts bordering Cambodia and placed Thai troops in the northeastern part of Thailand on emergency alert status.

The real purposes of President Li Xiannian's visit to Thailand were: to draw Thailand into closer collusion with Beijing in its attempt to oppose Vietnam, to sabotage the rebirth of the Cambodian people, to revive the Pol Pot army remnants and Cambodian reactionaries from their current demoralization and confusion, and to check the growing trend toward dialogue in the region.

Beijing and Bangkok leaders centered their lengthy talks on the Cambodian issue. Xu Xin, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Chinese Armed Forces, met with General Bunnak, chief of the General Staff of the Thai Armed Forces [as heard], and three deputy chiefs of the General Staff of the Thai Armed Forces to discuss measures to evacuate the guerrillas following their loss of a string of hideouts along the Cambodian-Thai border. Xu Xin also proposed that Chinese advisers be permitted to transit Thailand so they can help reorganize the guerrilla forces belonging to Pol Pot and the Cambodian reactionaries which had been tracked down by the Cambodian Army and people.

One can also see clearly the coordination between Beijing and Washington in their plot to draw Thailand into these dangerous schemes.

Earlier, assistant secretaries of the U.S. Departments of State and Defense visited Thailand and inspected the Cambodian border area. Faced with the slanderous allegation of Vietnamese troops intrusions into Thai territory, people in the Washington administration pretend on the one hand to be worried over the present situation while on the other they seek ways to make the situation even more tense by giving massive military aid to Thailand.

The U.S. Defense Department spokesman said that Thailand needs modern fighter aircraft and the United States will sell some F-16 fighter aircraft to Thailand at the cost of \$16 million each. Everyone can see that these aircraft are offensive weapons. The United States has several times established air bridges to move military equipment to Thailand, thus intensifying the armed conflict along the Cambodian-Thai border.

The Pentagon is plotting to turn Thailand into a U.S. arsenal. From this viewpoint, Sino-U.S.-Thai collusion will only make the situation more complicated, seriously threatening peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The political circles in some of the region's countries are well aware of this danger.

The three Indochinese countries have put forth new initiatives concerning the desire and readiness of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia to establish good-neighborly relations with Thailand and other countries. This good will is getting public support and sympathy. The U.S.-Beijing policy of colluding with the regional ultrarightist forces to reverse the trend of dialogue and rescue the Pol Pot lackeys and Cambodian reactionaries will only court failure.

U.S. PROVIDING AID TO 'CAMBODIAN REACTIONARIES'

BK221151 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] According to sources from Washington, the United States is deciding to provide \$5 million in aid to the Cambodian reactionary forces in this fiscal year. Public opinion contends that although the United States is trying to camouflage this assistance as humanitarian aid, its real intention to assist the Cambodian reactionary forces can be seen very clearly.

The Reagan administration supports the Democratic Kampuchea Government. Since the beginning, this administration has provided U.S. dollars to some ASEAN countries, mostly Thailand and Singapore, so that these countries can buy weapons and send them to the Pol Pot clique. According to the chairman of the U.S. subcommittee for financial aid, this time the money will be channeled through Thailand to the Cambodian reactionaries.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETES LPRP ANNIVERSARY

BK230545 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 21 Mar 85

["Recent" message of greetings from the CPV Central Committee to the LPRP Central Committee]

[Text] On behalf of the Communists, the working class, and all the people of Vietnam, we would like to extend to the LPRP Central Committee -- headed by esteemed Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane -- and through it to all Communist Party members, working class, and fraternal people of Laos our warmest and best greetings.

Over the past 30 years, the glorious LPRP has integrated patriotism with pure proletarian internationalism, applied Marxism-Leninism in a creative fashion that suits the real situation in Laos, led the Lao people in overcoming countless difficulties and ordeals, accomplished the national democratic revolution, and founded the LPDR, thus opening up a new era for Laos -- an era of independence, freedom, and socialism. At present, in light of the resolution of the third party congress, the Lao people of various nationalities are united to overcome all difficulties and are determined to join with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia in defending this bastion of the socialist system in Southeast Asia to foil all the extremely wicked plots and acts of interference and sabotage of the Chinese expansionist-hegemonist clique which is acting hand in glove with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces and to continue to achieve ever-greater all-round success in the struggle for national defense and construction.

The great victory recently scored by the Lao Army and people in fighting the plots and acts of aggression by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai leadership against the three Lao villages in order to defend the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Laos has greatly demonstrated the growth and strength of the Lao revolution.

Loyal to the lofty proletarian internationalism and fostering the glorious traditions of the Indochinese Communist Party, the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Laos have, throughout the course of their long and hard revolutionary struggle, always stood side by side, shared woe and weal with each other, fought together, and shared the same victories.

The extraordinary relationship between Vietnam and Laos that began with President Ho Chi Minh has increasingly been consolidated and strengthened and has become an invincible strength that cannot be destroyed by any enemy.

The recent summit conference of the three Indochinese countries and the many resolutions of the two parties on the need to strengthen relations between Vietnam and Laos have been of great historic importance, marking a new step of development of the militant alliance and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos as well as between Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. These are factors for ensuring the success of each country's revolution and are the collective strength of the three Indochinese countries. They are also important factors for ensuring peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Once again, we would like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to the LPRP, the government, and the fraternal people of Laos for their wholehearted and valuable support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle in the past as well as at present.

We wish the fraternal Lao people new and greater successes in the cause of defending and building their beloved fatherland -- building a peaceful, independent, unified, and socialist Laos.

May the militant solidarity, great friendship, and all-round cooperation between our two parties and peoples last forever.

JAPANESE PAPER CITED ON 'TEAM SPIRIT-85'

BK240855 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] On 20 March more than 10,000 U.S. Marines and South Korean commandos staged a mock landing in Pohang area on South Korea's southeastern coast. The landing was carried out under artillery and rocket fire cover provided by 50 warships and dozens of aircraft launched from the carrier Midway of the U.S. naval forces stationed off the coast. This war game, code-named "Double-Headed Dragon," was part of the U.S.-South Korean joint military exercises dubbed "Team Spirit-85" that have been conducted since 1 February this year.

In its 20 March issue, the Japanese paper MAINICHI SHIMBUN disclosed that these exercises were aimed at training many units of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. The paper also reflected Japanese opinion that the joint exercises have further worsened the situation in the Far East.

MARCOS SPEAKS AT ARMED FORCES DAY CEREMONIES

HK220740 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0442 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Speech by President Ferdinand Marcos at the combined Philippine Armed Forces Day and Philippine Military Academy graduation ceremony at the Philippine Military Academy, Baguio -- live]

[Text] General Ramos, present chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP]; Brigadier General Zumel, the superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy [PMA]; our hosts today; the minister of national defense, Minister Juan Ponce Enrile; our mayor and co-host in this affair, who I am sure is personally interested in the happenings because he too is a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, as his blazing [as heard] class '51 jacket shows. [applause]

He is supposed to be a flyer, but he couldn't do anything about the weather here in Baguio. Nothing out of schedule, all the things he was supposed to do, beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning.

I greet our special guests, the members of the diplomatic corps, for having come all the way to Baguio to participate in this traditional ceremony. I greet our friends from across the seas, especially our strong ally, the representatives of the United States Government led by the highest representative, the ambassador of the United States to the Philippines. I greet all the foreign guests.

I greet my colleagues in government. I notice that the members of the Batasang Pambansa are here. I am tempted to ask the speaker to call a special session [laughter] to help me write out all of these reorganization measures, which is sometimes a very thankless job, because they suspect you of almost every kind of purpose in the reorganization.

I greet all my comrades in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, especially those who are graduating into the Armed Forces, Class of 1985; 207 Filipino graduates and 2 Singaporeans, I understand. I especially give congratulations and accolades to those who have been awarded medals and given commendations, recognition, and appreciation by the people of the Philippines in today's ceremonies.

We gather here today in the [words indistinct] of this, what looks like a college campus, to mark together two important milestones and to celebrate such two milestones together for the first time in the history of both the PMA and the AFP. The annual observance of Armed Forces Day in our country and the commencement of the Class of 1985 of the Philippine Military Academy are these two milestones I speak of. But if this joint observance is unprecedented, it is also vividly illustrative of the continuity of tradition and life in our national soldiery. It shows us uniquely the exemplary process whereby an institution as old -- 88 years old -- as our Armed Forces, renews itself year after year with young and able men, and then passionately devotes itself in the reaffirmation of the vows of national fidelity and devotion of every member of the corps.

Today I see on these (?plains) the unbroken and cherished tradition of our military corps. I see the long line of our known heroes -- Aguinaldo, Luna, Ricarte, Del Pilar, Rizal, Aglipay, and their younger cohorts. But the longer line [is] of anonymous men and women of our nation who, in the final gamble, wagered life and honor for the survival of the nation more than once. I need not repeat here the victories of our Armed Forces of which we can be proud.

I notice that today it seems to be fashionable to abuse and castigate the Armed Forces in the most mischievous and sometimes vicious or casual manner, and for us in the Armed Forces to accept this without any answer because we ourselves sometimes do not remember that we are and have been fighting for something priceless which we hold dear with other peoples of equal persuasion. Priceless like democracy and freedom, even if these platitudes are a little battleworn and we are misunderstood even by some of our friends. We can shout to the world however: We are proud of our Armed Forces. Its achievements are well entrenched in the memories of our people and the history of patriotic and courageous men. It has conquered not only once, but again and again. Especially in the more contemporary years it has conquered the communist insurgencies, one after the other, in the 1950's and the 1960's. To it has surrendered the old Partido Komunista Pilipino in Aliaga, Nueva Ecija, in 1977, in which ceremonies I had the honor to represent the Armed Forces of the Philippines after the Partido Komunista had reached an overall strength of about 30,000 armed men.

We decisively won the battles of secession against our republic by the Moro National Liberation Front. The Armed Forces of the Philippines is probably the only national armed force here in Asia that has overcome a full-blown communist rebellion without the aid of foreign troops. We did it repeatedly in the past, and we shout to the world: We will do it again if necessary. The Moro national liberation secessionist movement in the south was overcome with the surrender of almost 16,000 armed regulars, a force that was supposed to have reached a total strength of about 30,000 men, like the communists. In 1977 the Armed Forces of the Philippines captured the founder and leader of the new Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP], Jose Maria Sison, and Commander Bernabe Buscayno, alias Commander Dante, organizer of the New People's Army [NPA]. Both of them are still in jail, facing charges in court. With them are the numbers of the Central Committee of the new Communist Party and about 100 more leaders of that party, either captured or eliminated in the last 2 years.

There should not be any need to brag about the casualties that have been inflicted in the last year or two on the Communist Party or the MNLF, but in view of the predilection of some of our critics to blow up demonstrations by small groups of, say, 1,000 people, like the last demonstration into riotous mobs, supposedly uncontrollable, of tens or hundreds of thousands, it may now be necessary to do so. I also say your government has the support of the people. Out of 73 governors, the opposition has only one. Out of 1,515 mayors, the opposition has elected into office only 10 to 20 percent of this number. Out of 41,000 barangays, communists influence only around 4 percent of such listings. All other claims, of course, all seem to be repeatedly announced by persons who are not in the know, are exaggerated, false, and untrue. In the last Batasan elections where members of the ruling party were even disqualified from entering the precincts, while the opposition supporting number was allowed to call the shots. The most that opposition and independent candidates could obtain was 20 percent of the membership of the Batasan.

Going through the most severe economic crises and natural calamities, our people supported the government. The Aquino assassination, which was used as a political issue against the government, is now under trial after the most exhaustive investigation of the conduct of public officials and the entire government that can be allowed by a government. It is government with an ideology, it is a government with both universal and particular values. It has pointed out the things that we don't like about our society. Before, long before the critics mentioned it, and which we have resolved today, long before this crisis we ventilated our [word indistinct] about that society and our people have accepted them as they participate in the program of recovery from crisis.

The question is often asked if the Armed Forces of the Philippines, [is] being used to protect a government which, because of mismanagement, brought about the economic crisis. And the answer is no. More and more of these irresponsible statements have been unmasked as political propaganda and not the objective and scholarly studies of the academy or of businessmen [word indistinct], or they were bruited at to be. The fight has been reduced into one single issue. That issue is between democracy and communism, authentic democracy. For the first time in the history of the Philippines, all opposition parties are supporting the legalization of the Communist Party and they have adopted the principles of communism in their platform which they would implement if elected into office. Let me repeat that for the first time in the history of the Philippines, all opposition parties have joined hands in supporting the tenets of the Communist Party. This party is godless, it recognizes no private property, it has not true elections, freedom of speech is not tolerated, nor are the fundamental freedoms enshrined in our Constitution. It would convert our government into a totalitarian dictatorship. This is what we are fighting against.

Ours is the only government that has established a tanodbayan and ombudsman, and yet they call it corrupt. They speak of cronies and all these cronies they point out to are but of this country or all are charged in court. What kind of crony would that be? We have a special court for the prosecution of public officers, as I said, who may have been (?slack) in the performance of their duties. It has prosecuted the highest ranking officers as well as the small.

The claim that only the small people have been prosecuted in the sandiganbayan is a blatant lie. Four regional directors as well as high-ranking members of ministries have been brought before the tanodbayan and sandiganbayan.

The reason only the members of the opposition turned opposition from membership in the KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] was because they were brought before the tanodbayan and the sandiganbayan. The total number of complaints filed with the tanodbayan is more than 9,000 [words indistinct]. At this time, this is also, I feel, when the nation must fully face up to economic crisis and adversity and prove again the vitality of its economic institutions. This is a time when our political institutions and processes must prove their efficacy and their responsiveness to reform and change. You in the Armed Forces, as much as we in the civilian government, stand at the forefront of this climactic period in our national history. Your imagination, your initiative, your theory as much as ours will determine how we shall keep the Republic secure, away from the valley of catastrophe and upheaval, and how far we can bring it to the uplands of prosperity, stability, and peace. At this point it can already be said that our combined vigilance and resolve that stem the tide of crisis in our midst have commenced the process of national recovery. But the war has not been won, and we must still exert our utmost to win the larger struggles before us: the continuing fight against subversion and insurgency on one front, and the fight for enduring economic and political stability on the other.

In the struggle against subversion and insurgency, it has never been enough and it is not now to merely recite the terrors and the horrors that would come if this alien ideology should ever emerge victorious, God forbid, in our country. To contend successfully at all, we must pose against it the superiority of our beliefs and ideas and the efficacy of our own economic and political philosophy in the achievement of justice and progress. We must emphasize this point because there are those among us who seem to imagine that the mere recitation of the platitudes of democracy will suffice to dam the tide of this aggressive ideology of communism. There are those who would flirt with subversives and insurgents in the innocent, naive, foolish belief that they can use them in their road to power. There are those who think that they can stand in the maelstrom of politics by merely against something or someone, without themselves standing for a political faith.

I say this, as I have said it in the past: If we are to survive the pervasive challenge of other ideologies in our midst like communism, and we will, it must be by the strength of our own democratic ideology, keenly understood and passionately advanced. If you had to contend with vigor instead of merely trusting to chance, and we win, it must be by the zealous advocacy of our own ideas and beliefs. And we must do this side by side with the violent and armed struggle that the communist insurgency constantly brings upon this society.

So what then do we stand for? What do we believe in? We believe in the democratic principle of government by the consent of the governed, in a government of laws, not of men, and in a social and political system that is anchored in the principle of choice and reason, deliberation, and debate. We believe that we must seek in our country today a transformation of our society, and that democracy has the capability to transform even a society burdened by a corrupt oligarchy. And we must bring about the authentic economic liberation of our people. We believe that peace and security are not to be achieved by the application alone of the lawful force that only the state can utilize. They must come along with progress and welfare won by the labors of our people. To achieve this end, we stress seven elements in our democratic and Filipino ideology, and these seven points are: first, [word indistinct] development. This is not to say we must plan everything that the free society must do. It must encourage, however, rational decisionmaking. It must provide a clear and focused direction for economic achievement and promote greater predictability and stability in the national economy. The government shall set the atmosphere and perhaps the general guidelines, but it shall leave to free enterprise and the private sector the actual achievement of progress.

Second, unity which calls for the integration of national efforts in economic, social, cultural, and political endeavors; which stresses that we must surmount once and for all our historical tendencies to factionalism if we are to fulfill the national purpose. The factionalism that threatened the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines way back during the revolutionary period, and the factionalism that we saw in the Second World War. Factionalism that we see even today.

A third element of that ideology, (or) the principles of moral regeneration, nationalism, national identity which fosters self-respect, national dignity, and honor, self-reliance in the achievement of our aims for the people, whether they be economic, political, or social.

Fourth, internationalism which [word indistinct] measures to meet our responsibilities in the community of nations and to advance our national interests in that family.

Fifth, social justice, which stresses that side by side with growth, there must be special expertise, and which pursues through such programs as agrarian reform, productive employment, and livelihood generation the welfare of every member of society and the encouragement of its labors not its dependence on the state.

Sixth, freedom of belief, which vigorously affirms the principles of choice and non-coercion and the exercise of civil and political rights as fundamental to the democratic system of government.

Seventh, finally, barangay or participatory democracy, which stresses the participation of all the people who are qualified under the existing conditions to make decisions with their government, not just through electoral exercises, but through the daily government of community life and through the active exercise of citizens. An ideology that is the outcome of years of labor and study as ours cannot be reduced, of course, to a formula. But these seven points express its essential line, and they precisely demarcate our faith from those who strive to overthrow government by violence and those who today look for our people's support in the parliamentary field.

It was this ideology that delivered us from the jaws of catastrophe in 1972 and 1973. It was this which led the way of national transformation and salvation, to the birth of our new society. And it was with this fighting faith that we have lived together, you and I, all these many years to keep the nation safe and secure. To build amidst the winds of conflict that have again threatened the margins of national life, we must again respond with vigor, both for the defense and promotion of our ideology. We must once affirm it as our fighting faith, and we must recognize that our recovery and security programs are anchored on it.

So let me speak of the soldier's mission. All of us, whether we are soldiers, civil servants, or mere citizens, have our missions to perform in our respective way for the good of the nation. I shall address here the eminent, important, and indispensable role that devolves upon our soldiery today in this climactic time in our national life. That role is at once the oldest and the loneliest charge that a society lays upon a member, for you are the watchmen in our streets and city gates, and your vigil and your struggles most of the time go on unseen by the many who benefit from your labors. You are the ones who make the difference when the life of the nation is on the line. You are the rock on the end of which the Republic stands, and with these demanding missions there is a sometimes painful task, that you will not always be understood by the people you serve, that the power paid in you [words indistinct] resented by some, that only in extremities of danger do the people truly learn the umbilical cord linking them to you.

It is not only the case where there are times too when soldiers stand closest to the affections of his countrymen. You may, however, think this is one of those times when soldiery is not understood and stands in the midst of doubt, fear in our own country, thankless doubt. But I believe that there is in our land a more forthright and clear-headed perception of our military today. It recognizes that the nation owes its soldiery, which distinguishes it in the abuses of a few and the conduct of a whole, and which will not stint in giving the support that you deserve. Never doubt this in spite of the loud and hysterical propaganda being circulated by a few, despite the incursions of the insurgents within the media of the West. The nature of your mission has not changed.

[Passage indistinct] The character of your vigil, the nature of the danger which you and I confront are neither magnified or reduced by what occasional critics or visitors may say about you. These observations do not change reality. If there is danger, we must confront the danger in the proportions that we see and we perceive it to be. And your participation will be the decisive factor with respect to the initial phase of peace.

Today let us say that there is indeed a perceptible effort to intensify insurgency and subversive activities in our country. Communist activities have intensified in many fronts -- in the buildup of the NPA, in the establishment of subversive and front organizations, in the integration of labor and student ranks, in the production and circulation of antigovernment propaganda and in the employment of terrorism and sabotage. Much of this intensification is rooted in the perception that the crisis that beset our country during the last 1 and 1/2 years represented an opportunity for the communist cause. It was believed and hoped that the government would be overthrown by this crisis, be unable to manage the economic crisis and the consequent social and political turmoil. These perceptions of governmental ineffectuality, in the face of crisis, have been proven false as we have decisively turned this final crisis into an opportunity for national strengthening and renewal. But in the meantime, the fact remains that we face in some parts of the country the vestiges of a newly aggressive NPA activity, much more covert activities in the infiltration by subversives [word indistinct]. It was for this reason that we embarked on a new program for the revitalization of our Armed Forces and an intensified campaign against insurgents and terrorists.

To define clearly the problem that we are facing today, attention must specifically be given to the following: first, the fact that the insurgents are focusing their activities on farflung barangays and remote municipalities in the country. They are taking advantage of the fact that our Armed Forces can only visit these areas once in a while and cannot maintain a longer presence there. Second, the adoption of the new guerrilla tactics of terrorism and sabotage. Since 1981 the dissidents have engaged in quite a number of these sabotage operations. Mostly arson in the capital equipment or agricultural industrial establishments in northern Luzon and in Mindanao. The object of this effort (?proposes) to disrupt production and damage the agricultural gains of our economy. It is also carried out whenever target firms refuse to financially support the insurgent movement.

Third, the CPP-NPA is giving equal emphasis today to united front building in our urban centers. To the party, a united front is a broad alliance of all sectoral organizations, an opposition group which will concertedly work through legal and even extralegal means to create a revolutionary situation in the cities to complement their armed struggle in the countryside. The CPP clearly hopes now to use the opposition's political machinery to promote the party's open mass movement, to strengthen the structure of communist front organizations with the unwitting help of opposition elements and to recruit opposition sympathizers into the CPP base. In this light we can see why the CPP, through the National Democratic Front, is openly calling for a democratic coalition government and why the opposition should be wary of this sugar-coated bait. We can dismiss outright any hope that the communists can ever be enticed into abandoning their struggle in favor of a peaceful parliamentary struggle for political power. Their leaders have said as much recently. We have always believed this to be a fact, and it is naive, foolish for anyone to anchor national hopes on such a [word indistinct] strategy. What we face, in sum, today is the new face of confrontation in which we must renew our strategies and tactics, our (lines) of action and defense, in the same manner that the enemy is transforming his. The problem we face here requires a total approach that must be characterized by a government and a people working together for a common goal.

So what is the new counterinsurgency program? Our new counterinsurgency program rests on the three major lines of action, some of which have already been outlined under the guidelines that are set by the chief of staff. One, the integration of local government and military efforts in the fight against terrorism and insurgency. Second, the retraining of Armed Forces personnel and the upgrading of logistical support for our counterinsurgency forces.

Three, the mobilization of our government and citizenry for the ideological struggle, for the battle of ideas, for the propaganda struggle that for some time has been overshadowed by our side but greatly intensified [words indistinct]. With respect to the first program, I am directing all municipal executives to speed up the preparation of their integrated security defense plan, or rather implementing this internal security defense plan. For there is a plan of security for each and every municipality; every city in their respective areas of jurisdiction must coordinate with the local military and police commanders. Such a plan should be implemented, operationalized in a coordinated way at the soonest possible time in areas presently besieged by insurgent activity. Likewise, it must provide preemptive measures for the protection of the population centers and vital public utilities from insurgent intrusions. This being an area [words indistinct] activity, I am holding the regional unified commanders responsible for overseeing the implementation of this integrated security defense plan, in consultation with the local executives in their respective regions.

Conceptually, the designated police and military commander is supposed to organize all armed elements in the community to include paramilitary forces and licensed armed citizens into a unit responsible for combat operations in defense of the community.

At the same time the local executive is supposed to organize the unarmed civilian employees, concerned citizens of the locality for the non-military aspects for security defense planning. The military or police commander shall then coordinate and consult with the local executives in specific areas of the plan with the unarmed components who can and shall be utilized, in view of the urgency to upgrade and increase the efficacy of paramilitary forces. I am likewise directing all military commanders who have jurisdiction over civilian home defense units to retrain and reorient all incumbent CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Forces] members.

Apropos of this theme of joining the local government and military forces in the counter-insurgency campaign, this is also an opportunity to stress the important role that our soldiers are now performing in various developmental endeavors. While we are at it, at the insistence of both the civilian and the military leaders, I suspended the signing of the executive order providing measures to improve the administrative and operational framework for maintaining peace and order in the provincial, city, and municipal levels by transferring not only control but supervision of all police units of the National Integrated Police and all CHDF units, subject to the conditions that are embodied in this executive order to the municipal mayors of our country. [applause]

Let me go through this ceremony of signing this executive order which makes such a transfer. Incidentally, I have been convinced that it is better to transfer all police units and CHDF rather than just a selected few, so we can withdraw such a transfer anytime, at the instance of either a higher civilian authority or finally the military. The [words indistinct] minister of national defense, in your presence I sign this executive order. [applause]

[Announcer] This is a milestone as far as local supervision is concerned regarding the local police forces (?is now a body) of the transfer of supervision and control of all the police and Civilian Home Defense Forces, under the supervision [passage indistinct].

[Marcos continues] In the insurgent-affected areas I direct the armed forces, through the acting chief of staff, to work closely with national and local government units in the implementation of the national civic action program as embodied in executive order 1004. This program assigns respective roles to the Ministry of Public Works and Highways, the local governments and the Armed Forces, and the Ministry of National Defense in the construction of infrastructure in the local communities, particularly in insurgent-affected areas.

Relatedly I have promulgated the implementing rules and regulations of executive order 1004 which would now involve the Armed Forces in the planning and implementation of infrastructure projects in the critical areas where socio-economic development has been hampered by the presence of insurgents and their activities therein.

While strengthening the processes and systems of coordination and interaction in the counterinsurgency campaign, we must not neglect the need to improve the capability of our Armed Forces in these efforts. We must look more than ever now, as indeed we are already doing, to the individual soldier. It is in this light that we have launched our massive program of retraining and reequipment of our men in uniform. We strive today to provide for his uplift in his morale alongside with our objective to make him more professionally effective in the field. When we talk of support, we do not only refer to logistical and training needs. We refer also to moral support, or the effectiveness of our soldiery rests on all these elements coming harmoniously together. And we could not say enough about the importance of providing for the soldier's well-being and the welfare of his family. I have today been informed of the proposal to seek an increase in the soldier's combat pay. Let me say now that as soon as funds shall be available, I hereby authorize the increase of combat pay of AFP personnel aside from [words indistinct] from 120 pesos to 240 pesos a month. [applause]

In addition to this, the present subsistence allowance of our soldiers, especially in the field...[Marcos changes thought] I would now like to act on the request for the cadets in the PMA, the Philippine Flying School, and the INP Police Academy. I hereby authorize the increase of subsistence allowances from 15 to 20 pesos daily. [applause] I gather that I missed including the hospital [word indistinct]. I hereby increase them in this order. [applause] I suppose that they will need money to implement all of this. I did order the redefinition of the reserves of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. All officers since last year were asked to hold in reserve 20 percent of the authorized and program amounts for their offices, agencies, and ministries. The Armed Forces of the Philippines has a reserve of 450 million pesos. I hereby order that these reserves be now converted into program amounts. [applause] Lest the IMF notes this as an unauthorized release, which may not [word indistinct] in their accounting which they are finally doing today, let me say that this was included in the account of the deficit area when the present acting chief of staff took over that office, and that was 5 months ago. So this has been included in the reckoning of the deficit in the budget of about 6.6 billion pesos.

I order Minister Alba of the budget and management to now release this amount, and if they have no cash in the treasury yet, I order that at least the first quarter be now released to the Armed Forces of the Philippines. We'll talk about the rest later on. [applause]

I direct the acting chief of state to follow this up and inform me when he has gotten hold of the money. [laughter] Corollary to this, I [words indistinct] enjoin the Armed Forces to see that all available logistics be sent to the field immediately to support our line units. I am in the habit of talking to the field commanders and even to the combat unit commanders and they tell me that they are woefully equipped up to now. Planners should program the appropriation of logistics in a manner that will improve, support the units in the field so our soldiers will be able to effectively move, shoot, and communicate.

But let us never forget that we must ever strive for optimal utilization of our resources and implement internal measures to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful application of such meager resources.

I understand that Fort del Pilar, while supposedly a reservation, is not covered by any title or document and that this was merely presumed but never documented. So you are squatting on public land. I therefore deem it wise to now issue a proclamation setting aside an area of about 373 hectares, some of which covers valuable mining land. I understand there is mining going on down below near the tennis court. Well, I suppose we better inform the IMF that we are going to start mining Fort del Pilar. Anyway, joking aside, I hereby sign a proclamation setting aside these 373 hectares as the area reserved for Fort del Pilar. [applause] This is upon the recommendation of the required authorities including the Ministry of Natural Resources and of course the Bureau of Lands.

[Announcer] President Marcos is signing at this morning's commencement exercises. You are watching this live from Baguio City the commencement exercises of the 1985 class of the Philippine Military Academy and the joint observation of the AFP 88th Anniversary.

[Marcos] I would like to promote, in your presence (?76) regular and reserve companies and [words indistinct] officers in the AFP.

[Announcer] [Words indistinct] of these documents affect the major services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Earlier we had the increase of combat pay and also allowances to the training of certain flying school and INP personnel, and also the proclamation reserving 373 hectares of Fort del Pilar for the Philippine Military Academy and the promotion of some members of the regular force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

[Marcos] To those who were awarded the decorations today, especially for the operations in Surigao del Sur and Zamboanga del Sur. [applause] I hereby order promoted to the temporary grade of captain, 1st Lieutenant Nestor Raul Eloja, [applause] commander of Company Alpha. Of course I think I have promoted you already. [laughter] For the information of everyone, the day after I heard of the achievement of Lieutenant -- Captain -- I think you're already wearing it -- [laughter] I promoted him on the spot, and so I sign formally his promotion which I gave verbally. [applause] Congratulations.

The commander of the 33d battalion, 1st Infantry Division, Lieutenant Colonel Sangalang. [applause] You are not wearing the colonel's? You haven't yet? [laughter] There they are! Is your wife here? Why don't we ask her to put them on you?

[Announcer] Everyone is happy there for those who have been given their promotion. These are the awardees we witnessed earlier who have been involved in some of the counter-insurgency measures and they have proven themselves beyond the call of duty in their respective areas of responsibility.

[Marcos] May I now call on 1st Lieutenant Segundo Bolo. [applause] and 1st Lieutenant now Captain Saman B. Abubakar, [applause] who were given a spot bill of promotion upon the rescue of Bishop Escaler. I hereby formally sign their promotions to their present ranks.

[Announcer] These are the men responsible for the brave event on the rescue of Bishop Escaler and we are aware of this, considering the fact that this has been played up in media and they are the men who have been in pursuit of those who kidnapped the bishop and were also responsible for his release by the kidnappers.

[Marcos] Lt -- now Capt. Abubakar is a Maranaw and Lt -- now Capt Bolo is a Manobo. [Mindanao Muslim tribes]. Congratulations. [applause] [short passage indistinct]

[Marcos] I also wish to announce that after completing 2 years of active commission service, the members of the Philippine Military Academy class 1982 are hereby promoted from [words indistinct]. [applause] [short passage indistinct]

I now direct that the efforts of our field units must be complemented by regular training and retraining of our men in uniform, so that program katatagan [stability] will [words indistinct]. This must be high on the agenda of the AFP this year. I want the general headquarters and field commanders of the AFP to recognize and remember this. I want to [words indistinct] battalions to be more extensive, possibly every 7 months for both army and marine units. The effectiveness of our constabulary and police forces must similarly be given full attention in this regard. The soldiers' knowledge of law enforcement procedures must be enhanced further through the continuous conduct of seminars and refresher courses along these lines so that they will be more aware of the rights of the citizens that they are sworn to uphold.

Considering all of these security programs we are staging today, there is all the more need to redesign the strictly conventional pattern of our Armed Forces. Our forces will be capable of responding more effectively to internal threats rather than conventional or external threats.

This decision, of course, we made 2 or 3 years ago. You and I know that insurgency and subversion grow on the soil of discontent and expectations, that they are influenced by the social economic, and political aspects of national life, that they are wedded, whether we like it or not, to the climate of opinion in our country.

There is therefore all the more need to exert our utmost efforts to coordinate and integrate the Armed Forces plan with that of the civilian government, because (?it is) for this reason that we sought the restructuring of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to conform with (?political administration), for the regions [word indistinct] of the regional unified command. It is for the same reason that your actions in the field have been matched by [word indistinct] socio-economic action by the government [words indistinct] we must not forget the great importance of the information drive that must accompany our efforts in this endeavor. I do not over-emphasize this latter program for it seems regrettable to note that the communists seem to be scoring well on the propaganda field while in the field they have been [word indistinct]; in actual combat they have been driven from pillar to post by our forces. It is an omission on our part to neglect the communications challenge simply because of the belief that this alien ideology will never sit well with our countrymen. The process of the ideological struggle is its steady complexity in dimension, and there is great need to battle the enemy on this front as energetically as we are doing in the military and administrative fronts.

This is to say that in the last analysis, we must look to the beliefs [words indistinct] to the faith we stand and fight for. Whatever be our respective duties and obligations, this is to say that we must put a stop to this business of being merely at the receiving end of communist rhetoric under the guise of social and political criticism. For if we do believe that our democratic way is worthy of preservation and [word indistinct] we owe it our utmost in defending it against its enemies. We are soldiers all in the cause of defending and promoting our political faith. Whatever may happen to government, the soldier must stand for the duly elected leaders of the government. [Words indistinct] is called for the defense of the duly constituted authority, and we succeed in this struggle to the extent that all of us may do his part and live up to his duty.

You in our Armed Forces and you who are about to enter the corps are part of this long tradition that I have spoken of in which that duty has never failed. Let us hope and pray together that this noble princely tradition will never, never be broken. And beyond our own generation, men will still proclaim, in this your Armed Forces of the Philippines, their unwavering devotion to the flag, their undying loyalty to the Philippine Republic. In that spirit today I greet you, salute you and say, well done, keep it up. [applause]

MARCOS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED U.S. MILITARY AID CUT

HK250137 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 24 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[By Vicente M. Tanedo]

[Excerpt] Baguio City -- The government will fall back on its own resources in obtaining weapons and military equipment in the event U.S. military aid is reduced. This was President Marcos' reaction to reports that a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives had recommended a cut in the military assistance to the Philippines from \$100 million to \$25 million. The difference of \$75 million was proposed as economic aid instead.

Nevertheless, the president told newsmen at the presidential resthouse here that it was premature to react to this development in the U.S. Congress. Just the same, he said, the improvement of Armed Forces equipment and training will go on as planned. The president showed particular interest in providing troops in combat areas with bullet-proof vests, also known as anti-flak jackets, to reduce casualties in the battle areas. He added that the soldiers in the field are equally entitled to protection as the president and other officials.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

MARCH 26/85

